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Somersetshire
Archæological & Natural History
Society.

PROCEEDINGS
DURING THE YEAR 1899.

VOL. XLV.

The Council of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society desire that it should be distinctly understood that although the volume of PROCEEDINGS is published under their direction, they do not hold themselves in any way responsible for any statements or opinions expressed therein ; the authors of the several papers and communications being alone responsible.



WRINGTON

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Somersetshire
Archæological & Natural History
Society

FOR THE YEAR 1899.

VOL. XLV.



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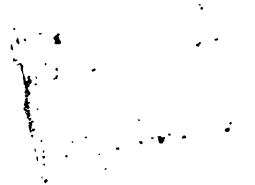
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PREFACE.

THE thanks of the Society are due to Mr. W. H. Hamilton Rogers, F.S.A., for supplying the illustrations to his paper ; to Professor Allen, for his excellent photographs ; to the Rev. E. H. Bates, for his map and drawings of Church Plate ; to the Rev. F. Hancock, F.S.A., for his contribution towards the expense of the Church Plate illustrations, and to Mr. McMurtrie, for the drawings of the prehistoric remains found at Radstock.

F. W. W.

January, 1900.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
DURING THE YEAR
1899.

THE fifty-first annual meeting of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society was held at Clevedon on Tuesday, July 25th, and the proceedings in their entirety lasted for three days, excursions being made to neighbouring churches, and many historic places of interest were visited amid the charming scenery with which the district abounds.

The proceedings at Clevedon commenced with the annual meeting, held on Tuesday at noon, in the Public Hall. In the absence of the President, Mr. E. J. STANLEY, M.P., Mr. E. B. CELY TREVILIAN, one of the Vice-Presidents, took the chair, and having read a letter from Mr. Stanley, regretting his inability to be present, he introduced the President for the year, the Right Hon. Sir EDWARD FRY, P.C., of Failand House, North Somerset, late Lord Justice of Appeal.

Report.

Lieut.-Col. J. R. BRAMBLE submitted the annual report as follows :—

“Your Committee beg to present their fifty-first annual report.

“In the first place they have the satisfaction of announcing that the Earl of Cork and Orrery, K.P., Lord Lieutenant of Somerset, has cordially accepted the invitation of your Society to become its Patron.

“Since our last report twenty-three new names have been added to your list of members. On the other hand the loss by deaths and resignations has been nine, leaving a net gain of fourteen members. The total number is 651, as against 637 at the date of our last report.

“The balance of your Society’s General Account at the end of 1897 (your accounts being made up to the end of the year) was £76 16s. 10d. in favor of the Society, the liability for the cost of the volume for the year then expired not having been taken into account. The balance at the close of the present account was £118 11s. 10d. in favor of the Society.

“The total cost of Volume XLIV (for 1898), including printing, illustrations and delivery, has been £104 15s. 7d. The cost to the Society was greatly reduced by the liberal gift of Mr. W. H. Hamilton Rogers of the whole of the illustrations to his paper, by the President of the two pictures of the ‘Old Doors,’ and by the Rev. Preb. Buller of two views of North Curry church. Professor Allen was also good enough to supply the excellent photographs from which most of the illustrations were taken. The thanks of the Society are due to each and every of these gentlemen.

“The total amount of the subscriptions to the Castle Fund, up to date, is £714 6s. 6d., including Colonel Pinney’s legacy of £300. Your Committee have entered into a contract with Mr. Fox for substantial repairs to the Castle Hall, including the

opening out and complete repair of the roof. This roof is modern, but of good construction, and the timbers throughout sound. The ceiling, however, was in a bad condition, and portions were liable to fall at any time. The work has also included reinstating the windows, the repair of floors, and the supply of new guttering and down pipes. The fine portico or two-storied porch is being improved by the removal of modern brickwork, and a high-pressure heating apparatus is being supplied, this being necessary to protect your valuable collection from damp.

“The roof over a portion of the Library and Museum, adjoining the Curator's house, which was in a very bad state, is to be thoroughly reinstated, including new lead gutters.

“As usual, during the carrying out of the work, the absolute necessity of replacing unsound timbers and other additional work has been apparent, and further aid towards the cost will be welcome.

“It is proposed that immediately on the completion of the repairs to the Great Hall, the Geological and some other portions of the Museum shall be added to the part of the Natural History collection, which has been hitherto all that was exhibited there. Want of space, has, until now, prevented the proper exhibition of much which was valuable and highly interesting.

“The Mayor and Corporation of Taunton have presented to the Society the oak framework of two of the almshouses, formerly standing in St. James' Street, called St. James' Almshouses, which were taken down about two years since. They have been re-erected on the portion of the Castle Lawn, nearly opposite the Library, and form a very interesting example of the ‘half-timbered’ houses of the sixteenth century.

“The Castle House, unfortunately, still remains void.

“The Council have to report the gift by Mr. Harvey Pridham, of the Vicarage, West Harptree, of a large volume, containing a type-written copy (one of three) of his ‘Notes on Somersetshire Fonts,’ the result of several years work. He

proposes, at some future time, to deposit with us the measured drawings, to an uniform scale, of all such fonts. The cordial thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Pridham.

“Several interesting additions have been made to the Museum.

“Two volumes of the Somerset Bibliography, containing the county books, Bath excepted, are already printed, and the Bath volume is being actively proceeded with.

“The Photographic Record Committee report that their work continues to make progress, although not so rapidly as might have been expected, and they invite the co-operation of additional workers.

“The number of visitors to the Museum in 1898 was 5082, a decrease of 154 as against 1897.

“The Library is gradually increasing by purchase, gift, and exchange, but the funds available after payment of necessary annual outgoings do not admit of large expenditure in this direction, and it is on gifts from members and others that we must to a great extent rely.

“Your Committee have lately received a letter from the Town Clerk of Taunton enquiring whether they ‘would be prepared to treat with the Taunton Town Council for the laying out and throwing open of the grounds of the Castle and Museum to the public under terms and restrictions to be agreed upon.’

“Your Committee desire to have the views of the General Meeting of Subscribers upon the suggestion, and recommend that they be authorised to entertain the application, so far as the Castle grounds are concerned, subject to a satisfactory arrangement of terms and other details, and that your Committee be empowered to negotiate and to carry into effect any terms which may be mutually agreed upon.

“A third branch has, since your last meeting, been added to your Society, having its head-quarters at Taunton. It is called the ‘Taunton Conversazione and Field Club,’ and is

under the Presidency of your Treasurer, Mr. H. J. Badcock. The first meeting was held at the Castle Hall on April 6th, and already they number more than fifty members.

“Your Committee greatly regret to report the severe illness of your Assistant Secretary and Curator, Mr. William Bidgood, who has filled with credit the position of Curator since he was appointed in 1862—thirty-seven years—and to this the position of Assistant Secretary was added ten years later. His illness attacked him with great suddenness so lately as Wednesday, 12th inst., while engaged in preparation for this Meeting, where his absence will be greatly felt by those who have had experience of his readiness and courtesy on former occasions. Your Committee have made temporary arrangements for the performance of his duties.

“Since your last meeting your Committee are happy to report that you have suffered comparatively few losses by death, but the genial presence of the Rév. E. L. Penny, D.D., R.N., of Plymouth, will no longer add to the pleasure of our annual meetings, at which he was for a long series of years a regular attendant. Dr. Penny was one of the sons of a well-known former Head Master of Crewkerne School, and he took a great interest in all that appertained to our Society and the county generally.

“The Rev. Prebendary Hook, Rector and Rural Dean of Porlock, has also died since our last meeting. He was a member of some ten years’ standing, and as a Local Secretary, was an ex-officio Member of Council. Although he seldom attended our annual meetings, he gave us every assistance in his power, especially when we visited his parish in 1889. Prebendary Hook wrote, and recently published, a ‘History of Porlock,’ which must have been the result of a great deal of investigation and research.”

Mr. TREVILIAN, in proposing the adoption of the report, expressed regret at the illness of Mr. Bidgood. He referred to the proposal to utilise the Taunton Castle grounds, and said that the idea of a conference between the Committee of

the Society and the Town Council of Taunton, in order to lay out this ground, was a good one.

Canon CHURCH seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

Colonel BRAMBLE presented the financial statement, in the absence of the Treasurer, Mr. H. J. Badcock.

Treasurer's Account.

The Treasurer in Account with the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, from January 1st to December 31st, 1898.

Dr.			Ca.		
1898.	£	s. d.	1897, Dec. 31st.	£	s. d.
By Balance of former Account ...	76	16 10	To Expenses of Annual Meeting ...	13	16 1
„ Members' Entrance Fees (58) ...	30	9 0	„ Reporters' Notes of Meetings ...	3	10 0
„ Members' Subscriptions for 1898 (560) ...	293	18 6	„ Stationery and Printing ...	23	7 7
„ Members' Subscriptions in arrear (19) ...	9	19 6	„ Cases, Repairs, &c. ...	27	16 6
„ Members' Subscriptions in advance (22) ...	11	11 0	„ Coal and Gas ...	19	13 5
„ Members' Subscriptions (Life) ...	10	10 0	„ Purchase of Books, &c. ...	21	18 0
„ Non-Members' Excursion Tickets ...	12	2 6	„ Printing Vol. 43, &c. ...	81	5 0
„ Museum Fees ...	26	0 8	„ Cost of Illustrations ...	14	5 3
„ Sale of Publications ...	15	1 3	„ Postage of Volume ...	9	5 4
„ Sale of Index Volume ...	19	6 0	„ Printing and Binding Index ...	28	11 0
„ Balance of Conversatione ...	2	9 4	„ Curator's Salary ...	105	0 0
„ Balance of Exhibition ...	0	11 3	„ Errand Boy ...	11	0 6
„ Donation, G. H. Rogers, Esq. ...	5	0 0	„ Insurance ...	4	3 9
„ „ H. H. P. Bouverie, Esq. ...	2	9 6	„ Rates and Taxes ...	13	19 0
			„ Subscriptions to Societies ...	8	13 0
			„ Carriage and Postage ...	8	12 7
			„ Sundries ...	1	15 6
			„ Subscription returned (paid in error) ...	1	1 0
			Balance ...	118	11 10
	<u>£516</u>	<u>5 4</u>		<u>£516</u>	<u>5 4</u>

H. J. BADCOCK,
Treasurer.

Sept. 29th, 1899. Examined and compared with the vouchers and Bank Book, and found correct. } HOWARD MAYNARD,
ALEX. HAMMETT.

Taunton Castle Restoration Fund.

Treasurer's Account from 1st January to 31st December, 1898.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
1898.	£	s. d.	1898, Dec. 31st.	£	s. d.
By Balance of Premises ...	28	16 10	To Balance of former Account ...	39	7 8
„ Rents of Castle Hall ...	40	16 0	„ Repairs to Property ...	35	15 11
„ Messrs. Hancock, Rent of 3 lights ...	0	1 6	„ Rates and Taxes ...	9	4 11
„ Telephone Company Wayleave for Wires ...	0	1 0	„ Gas ...	4	0 2
„ Sundry Subscriptions ...	371	18 6	„ Sundry Expenses, Castle Hall, &c. ...	7	0 8
„ Legacy from the late Col. Pinney ...	300	0 0	„ Fire Insurance ...	3	16 6
			„ Interest ...	0	18 10
			„ Placed on Deposit Account at Interest ...	500	0 0
			„ Balance carried forward ...	141	9 2
	<u>£741</u>	<u>13 10</u>		<u>£741</u>	<u>13 10</u>

H. J. BADCOCK,
Treasurer.

Sept. 29th, 1899. Examined and compared with the vouchers and Bank Book, and found correct. } HOWARD MAYNARD,
ALEX. HAMMETT.

Col. LONG, the High Sheriff, proposed the adoption of the account, which he remarked was most satisfactory. To hear that there was a credit balance on the Castle account was almost unique.

Mr. W. J. BRAIKENRIDGE seconded the motion, which was carried.

Dr. NORRIS proposed the re-election of the officers of the Society, with the addition of Mr. H. C. A. Day, as a District or Local Secretary. He regretted very much the illness of Mr. Bidgood, their esteemed Curator, and spoke of the successful and useful work he had done for the Society by his quiet influence.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. D. L. HAYWARD, and agreed to.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER proposed the election of twenty-three new members of the Society.

Preb. HERRINGHAM seconded, and the resolution was adopted.

Somerset Record Society.

The Rev. E. H. BATES, Hon. Sec. of the Somerset Record Society, made a statement respecting the work of the Society during the past year, and what was proposed to do. He was happy to say that they had not only wiped out the debt of the Society, but they had a balance of about £35 or £40 with which to begin the year. This year they were anxious to continue the series of the "Monastic Cartularies of the County," and they proposed to publish the lately recovered one of Muchelney, whose first charter was dated 695, which shewed that the monastery was one of the oldest in England. They were also anxious to get hold of the "Cartularies of Athelney and Cleeve." In the series of Bishops' Registers they had taken Bishop Bowett, 1401—1408, and the register of Bishop Giffard, who was Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1264—1267, and afterwards Archbishop of York, and the document has recently

been found bound up with the York registers. So far as it goes, however, it would be a very valuable addition to their scattered records of the 13th century. They also had permission to print the Survey of Somerset, made in the reign of Charles I, and which had only been discovered about two years. Mr. Batten has found that the writer was Thos. Gerard, of Trent, and the date 1632. The volume was now being transcribed for the purpose of being issued next year, and he had no hesitation in saying that it would be exceedingly interesting. It was a sort of combination of Collinson's History and Murray's Handbook, but more accurate than either. Unfortunately the survey dealt only with the South and West of Somerset. The survey made by Mr. Strachey 1736¹ still remains in manuscript, and if the owner's consent could be obtained, it would be well to print, for a commencement, that part which dealt with the other portions of the county. Three documents, hitherto quite unknown, was not a bad record, and on that ground he asked for additional support for the Society.

The Very Rev. the DEAN OF WELLS spoke in support of the work done by the Record Society, and among the volumes published by them, he said that Bishop Hobhouse's book of Churchwardens' Accounts of five centuries ago, was an exceedingly interesting publication.

The President's Address.

Sir EDWARD FRY, who was cordially received, then delivered his Presidential Address. He said, "You are all familiar with the fact that the objects of this Society are twofold; it embraces Archæology and Natural History. I am rather inclined to think that the latter department has been less favoured in our researches. The Society has not done so much for Natural History as for Archæology. If we look back to the volumes of the last few years, we see, as the chief contribu-

1. *Proc.* xiv., ii. 94.

tion in Natural History, Mr. Murray's Flora of the county, which gives the localities of the flowering plants of the districts and divides Somerset into ten districts, separated more or less by natural conditions. But the work is confined almost to the flowering plants. It is much to be desired that work of a similar kind should be undertaken in reference to the cryptogamic flora of the county. I may mention in this connection that Mr. E. C. Horrell, of Copleston Road, Denmark Hill, is at work on the subject of the Geographical Distribution of the Mosses in Great Britain, and that if any students of that branch of botany would communicate to him the results of their labours in this county, they would be helping forward a good work.

“Turning from Natural History to the other branch of the Society's work, Archæology, I think that the most interesting discovery in our own county of late years has been that made in the very remarkable British village in the immediate vicinity of Glastonbury, where for years past interesting investigations have been carried on, which have brought to light a kind of settlement, I believe unique in the country, and also some of the most beautiful work of Celtic art found in England. I have this morning received a letter from Mr. Bulleid, who directed the labours which have been carried on in the village, and he said it had occurred to him that during the meeting of the Society the question might be asked with respect to the lake village, and if the excavations were to be opened this year. Owing to professional work, he would not be able to attend to the excavations now, but he hopes at some future time to continue the explorations. We regret that he could not carry on the investigations this year, but we shall look forward to the completion of the investigations in future years.

There is a subject which attracted the attention of the Society some years ago, upon which I should like to say a few words,—I mean the project of completing and publishing a

thorough and exhaustive history of the county of Somerset. Forms were sent round to many members of the Society, suggesting that they should undertake particular districts or parishes, so that they should make a more complete work than that of Collinson. Collinson's work was that of a comparatively young man, and is, notwithstanding all its inaccuracies and deficiencies, of great merit. We have the advantage of an Index to the work, for which we are indebted to our Honorary Secretary (the Rev. F. W. Weaver), and the Rev. E. H. Bates. In considering whether it were possible to undertake a work of this sort, I consulted some friends in Northumberland, who are engaged in the great history of that county at the present time. That work will, it is computed, occupy twelve large quarto volumes, four of which have already been issued. Those four volumes have cost £4,725, so that the figure for the completion will be a large one. A guarantee fund was formed in the county, and they had to meet a deficiency of £1,500 in respect to the first four volumes. In Somersetshire, with rents as they are, and land depreciated, we should hardly be able to undertake such a work. I think, on the whole, that it had better not be attempted at present. We shall do better to encourage local enterprise before we attempt a great county history. It is a pleasure to know that there are agencies going forward which, if they continue, will furnish materials when our successors shall undertake the great work. We must be content to play the part of David, and leave Solomon to put together the materials we may have collected in order to build the structure. First we have the Somersetshire Record Society. We have heard that some people are dissatisfied with what was published by that Society. I think that there is no cause for such a feeling. We must not expect that the publications will all be like the Waverley Novels, and I hope there will be a large subscription for what is issued. Then we have the "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries," which contain much useful information: and

lastly, we have individual labourers in particular districts. Our friend, Mr. Master, has published interesting monographs on Backwell and Flax Bourton ; Mr. Wadmore has done the same for Barrow Gurney, and Mr. Byrchmore for Tickenham. It is understood that Prebendary Hancock is at work on Minehead, Prebendary Coleman on Cheddar, and Mr. Chadwyck-Healey on Porlock and four or five adjoining parishes. These labours are worthy of imitation, and if this kind of work be spread over the country, we shall in time have the materials for a thorough county history.

“ It is worthy of consideration whether a county history of quite a different kind to that to which I have referred might not even now be undertaken with success. I mean one which should not merely consist of the sum of a number of parochial histories, but should deal with the county as a unit. If we look back to the history of this county, it furnishes many points of interest : we might begin with considering the traces of Christianity during the Roman period, then how Christianity came at a later date to the West Saxons, not through Canterbury and Augustine, but through Burgundy and Birinus. Then we look at the period of King Alfred, for we know that Somersetshire had its distinct part in the great wars of Alfred, in the times which followed his flight to Athelney. Then, coming down to a much later period, we arrive at Monmouth's rebellion. We need not necessarily have a work of great magnitude or research, but one which would bring together points of interest in the county as a county, and not deal with parochial matters. I commend that work to anyone who has leisure and the necessary qualification.

“ I have referred to the connection of King Alfred with our county. I am desirous that we should be on the alert, and that Somersetshire should take its due part in the forthcoming celebration of the one thousandth year of his death. It was in Somerset that Alfred, in the period of his extreme need, took refuge and found support. The flight to Athelney and

his hiding there was a very interesting epoch in King Alfred's life, certainly it was a crisis in his military life. Was it a crisis in his moral life as well? By some authentic Alfred's flight to Athelney has been regarded as a mere strategic movement. But there is a tradition, which finds support in Asser, as his work has come down to us, that Alfred fled because he was deserted by his friends and his Court—and that there was something like a revolt of his people, due to his neglect of his royal duties soon after his accession to the throne. Possibly the vast reputation which Alfred's later career produced may have led some historians to slur over an event which was extremely probable in a young man called to the throne, and which scarcely reflects any dishonour on his character, whilst his recovery showed of what mettle he was. Alfred's departure from Athelney was due very largely to the action of Somerset men who joined him in his march against the Danes. We are told that *all* the men of Somerset, the men of Dorset, and part of the men of Hampshire met together at Egbert's stone, and marched from Athelney across the country, spending a night at Iglea,—probably Clay Hill, and then they attacked the Danes on the encampment of the chalk hills near Westbury. Somerset also had its full share in another great event of Alfred's life, for the peace with the Danes was made at Wedmore. Then again, the monasteries of Banwell and Congresbury were given by Alfred to his friend and literary associate, the Welsh monk, Asser. Thus we have in the county of Somerset most interesting points of contact with the life of our great king. Such local associations we are, in my opinion, bound to cherish. Let me remind you of the characteristic and, as I think, the noble words of Dr. Johnson in his account of his visit to Iona: 'To abstract,' he said, 'the mind from all local emotion would be impossible, if it were endeavoured, and would be foolish, if it were possible. Whatever draws us from the power of our senses; whatever makes the past, the distant, or the future predominate over the

present, advances us in the dignity of thinking beings. Far from me and from my friends be such frigid philosophy, as may conduct us indifferent and unmoved over any ground which has been dignified by wisdom, bravery, or virtue. That man is little to be envied, whose patriotism would not gain force upon the plain of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer among the ruins of Iona.'

"Antiquarian pursuits then, if rightly followed, are not mere idle amusements of an idle hour : on the contrary they tend to remind us that we are citizens of no mean country : they help us to estimate rightly the grandeur of that inheritance which is ours as the heirs of all the ages : they not only adorn, but they strengthen and elevate our lives. '*Abeunt Studia in Mores.*'"

Mr. DUNCAN SKRINE proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Edward Fry for his admirable and interesting address. He was glad that the address had been of so practical a character, for he thought that they sometimes attempted too much and attained no result.

The Rev. A. R. CARTWRIGHT seconded the resolution, which was carried with acclamation.

The meeting then terminated.

Clevedon Court.

The company afterwards proceeded in brakes to Clevedon Court, where they were kindly invited to luncheon by Sir Edmund and Lady Elton, in whose absence Mr. Elton presided.

Sir EDWARD FRY proposed the health of "The Host."

Mr. ELTON, in returning thanks, said he had just received the news that he had been elected a member of the Society, and he begged to thank them for having elected him. On behalf of Sir Edmund and Lady Elton, he wished to say that it afforded them the greatest pleasure to invite the members of the Society to their house on that occasion.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER, on behalf of the Society, returned thanks to Mr. Elton for the cordial welcome he had given them.

Description of Clevedon Court.

Mr. ELTON then proceeded to give a remarkably interesting address descriptive of the Court. He said : It is with considerable diffidence that I rise to address you on this ancient and historic mansion ; selected as it has been by Thackeray as the foundation of his "Castlewood," and described as it has been by Rutter, in his "Delineations of North-West Somerset," as one of the most perfect examples of mediæval domestic architecture in England. So many abler heads than mine have dealt with it. I feel, therefore, I am quite unable to throw any fresh light on the matter. However, as archæologists, I feel that you will be the last people to expect to hear any new thing. I therefore crave your indulgence if I but repeat what may be stale news to many of you. I shall not attempt in the presence of experts to give you in any way a technical or learned address, but, like Truthful James in the poem, "I will tell in simple language all I know," and I hope the result will not end in the building of "churches of old red sandstone" or anything else. First of all, then, there is little doubt that there was originally a house here as far back as the time of the Norman Conquest. None of that now remains, but it is probable that from its foundations the most ancient parts of the present building arose. I direct your attention particularly to the room in which we are now seated. It forms the central part of the earliest structure. The original date would be early fourteenth century or about the time of Edward II. It has, of course, been largely altered and added to in the Jacobean period, and, later still, in the Georgian, when the present ceiling and the debased top to the fine Elizabethan window were added. If we divest the hall of all later additions, we shall find that it consists of a large and very high chamber, at

the four corners of which were turrets or newel staircases, three of which are still extant. The floor would have been of stone. The chamber would be lighted as far up as the present ceiling by mere slits in the walls, through which arrows, stones, or possibly boiling lead might be discharged on the heads of over-curious and suspicious-looking strangers. In cold weather a fire would be lighted in the middle of the room, and the smoke would find its way out by two apertures in the roof at either end. The two entrances to north and south, through Gothic archways of noble proportions, were each guarded by a portcullis let down from the rooms at each end of the minstrels' gallery. The grooves by which these descended may be examined at leisure. In fact, besides being the living room, it was a strong place whither the lord of the manor and all depending on him might resort in times of stress for temporary safety. A daïs would extend across the end of the room, and all would dine here in common, the servants sitting below the salt. We will now remove with a wave of the hand the white ceiling which obscures our view. Above it we see a high-pitched roof, and at either end two very beautiful windows belonging to the Early Decorated period, and above them the flues for the escape of the superfluous smoke that I have already alluded to. The blackening remains of soot are still clearly discernible about the tracery of the windows, and at either side are the unmistakable signs of the old hammer-beam roof, which has long years back ceased to exist, having either fallen into such decay as to compel its removal, or—dreadful thought—having been ruthlessly destroyed when the mischievous tide of architectural degradation reached its height under the House of Hanover. Out of the hall, on the eastern side, by a series of fourteenth-century doorways, which you may have noticed on your right hand on entering, the kitchen and other offices were reached. Behind me, on my left, you will observe a fine Jacobean doorway of stone, placed there by the Wake family, descendants of Kingsley's hero, "Hereward

the Wake," who for many generations occupied the property. It has, I regret to say, in degenerate days been painted and grained to imitate oak. It seems to appeal mutely for scraping, but it would be a hazardous task, and it would require ages of wear and tear, dust and dirt, to retrieve the sombre dignity of its ancient origin were this done, and after all it is not snobbishly assuming a higher position than it is entitled to, but rather a lower, for being stone it is content to take precedence as oak. So we will leave it. On my right you will see a fourteenth-century doorway restored after the disastrous fire which nearly destroyed all the west wing of the house in 1882. Opposite you see a debased doorway, once its match, leading on to the Queen Anne staircase. Above the old doorway I would direct your attention to the two-light window of the Early Decorated period. On the other side of that window is by far the most interesting characteristic of the house. I remember my grandfather (Sir Arthur Elton), himself an ardent archæologist, describing the "lady's bower," which proves that even archæologists may be mistaken, for he lived to see the truth laid bare, though, alas, a terrible fire, which occasioned the discovery, led up to his untimely death from sorrow and shock. The little room was no lady's bower, but neither more nor less than a tiny chapel, described by some authorities as a hanging chapel, from its position on the first storey. No tradition, no word, no sign, had escaped its sealed lips for centuries. Here was a room ancient and oak-panelled, certainly used for generations as the boudoir of the lady of the manor—this was all we knew. After the fire the panelling was being removed and some slight repairs executed (mercifully the flames had hardly reached the chamber), when in the eastern wall a fine square window, with reticulated tracery of the Early Decorated period was brought to light, carefully concealed within and without by masonry. Beneath this the altar slab, smashed off level with the wall, and on the right hand side of the piscina, with a canopy of

the same period, and the bowl broken off, had been covered in with the same diligent care. The whole has been restored to the likeness of its former beauty under the able hands of Mr. Davis, city architect of Bath, whose name will ever be associated to his honour with the restoration of the western wing of the house. The south window of the chapel, which has always been *in situ*, has been considered to be the finest example of square-headed window of the Early Decorated period in existence. Out of the chapel winds precipitously a newel staircase on to the roof, from whence the curious may obtain a view of the windows above this hall to which I have referred. I must not omit to mention the solar, or lord's chamber, which is the room above the library, connected with the chapel by a small doorway cut through the thickness of the wall. The western wing of the house was largely built by the Wakes in the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods, but the presence of a 14th century doorway at the top of the Queen Anne staircase, and a decorated buttress of the same period between the drawing-room and library, points to the former existence of buildings coeval with the hall. The whole of the interior of this part of the house was practically destroyed by fire, including a beautiful example of Jacobean mantelpiece with the Wake arms in the library, and one of the date of William and Mary in the drawing-room; also some ancient stained glass bearing the Wake knot and the family motto, "Wake and Pray," with the date 1570. Luckily the outside shell was robust enough to withstand the flames, and it still stands with the self-same ivy and creepers affectionately clinging to its dear old walls. The west front was restored by Sir Arthur some thirty years ago, as a former baronet, unfortunately possessed with the taste of the period, had pulled down the old west front and had put up what he conceived to be an improvement. I need not pain you by dwelling on the fact that the improvement was in the style commonly execrated as Strawberry Hill Gothic. It is now with slight exceptions practically the same as it was just

before the fire. In passing into the Elizabethan wing just touched upon you will notice the enormous thickness of the wall. When that part was being restored, Mr. Davis found that it was really a double wall, that is to say, when the builder of the time added to the house on that side he had not bored into the old wall to seek the support for his rafters and roofing, but had built up an entirely new wall alongside the old one, an example of labour and energy which the modern jerry builder might well take note of, though I could not recommend him to carry it out in detail. It was probably this extraordinary wall as much as anything else which saved the whole house from being destroyed by the flames. I must now draw your attention to the eastern wing of the house, especially to the kitchen. This room has been a good deal pulled about and altered at different times, but mainly it belongs to the same date as the hall. It originally reached from the ground to the roof, and extended to twice its present breadth, but other rooms have since encroached on its space in both directions. The walls are of great thickness. On either side of the southern gable of the kitchen are two beautiful little pinnacles of curious design, one of which is still in fair preservation. The kitchen communicated through an open court yard, and thence by the 14th century arches, with the hall. The buildings between the kitchen and the hall were originally much lower than those we now see, the upper storeys having probably been added by the Wakes. At the summit of the little gable, between the porch-room over the front entrance and the kitchen, you will notice a stone figure, supposed to be the bear and ragged staff of the King Maker. One has to be told this to believe it, as it might as well be an old lady with an umbrella from what we can see of it. However, there is method in our madness, for in the reign of Henry VI Thomas Wake held the manor of Clevedon of Richard, Earl of Warwick. Behind the kitchen, at the extreme north-east corner of the house, are the remains of a square tower which seems to belong to the

14th century period ; it has been much altered, cut down, and filled in with rooms. However, in an interesting picture, dating from Queen Anne, which hangs in the passage upstairs, the house and grounds are shewn surrounded by high walls, embattled here and there. A part of them, with an ivy-clad embrasure, still remain on the east side of the flower garden. The walls do not, I think, date back before the Jacobean period, for though cast in a somewhat earlier mould they altogether lack the strength and boldness of mediæval work. The front view of the house is generally recognised to be the finest, but to those who prefer to dwell on the rambling incongruities of an ancient pile I would recommend the view obtained from the "Esmond Terrace," which embanks itself picturesquely against the steep sides of the hill. From thence also one can plainly make out the original conformation of the more ancient parts of the building, somewhat in the shape of a capital H, the hall forming the cross stroke. And as you continue to gaze may you hear the echoes of that long forgotten day :—

" When men were less inclined to say,
That time is gold, and overlay
With toil their pleasure."

Before closing I would wish, as briefly as possible, to enumerate the different families who have held the court and manor of Clevedon, from the time of the De Clyvedons, who raised this hall, to the present day. From the De Clyvedons it passed by marriage to Thomas Hogshaw, thence in the same way to the Lovells, whom we find in possession in the first year of Henry IV, and again through their heiress, Agnes, to the Wakes. Roger Wake was attainted of treason in the first year of Henry VII, and forfeited all his rights ; he was, however, pardoned, and received restitution. Here we have the original counterpart of a deed of recovery against Roger Wake in 17 Henry VII, by which a large portion of the property was disentailed : the seal is that of the Court of

Common Pleas: also several files of accounts of about 1630, and a survey of the manor in 1629, which I discovered some time back in a cellar. They were in an old oak chest and wringing wet, yet the paper is as good, and the writing as clear as if it had been written yesterday; they are in beautiful preservation. The Wakes sold the property to their kinsman, Digby, Earl of Bristol, and from the executors of the third earl of that name, in accordance with the directions in his will, it passed by sale in the seventh year of good Queen Anne, to the then head of the Elton family. I have now come to an end of my remarks. Before bidding adieu to the old place, however, I may perhaps remind you, though possibly not yet exactly of archæological interest, that hither have come in the less remote past Hallam the historian, Arthur Hallam, the hero of a pathetic and undying friendship; Tennyson, who immortalized that friendship in "In Memoriam"; Coleridge, Thackeray, and many another literary giant of a bygone age.

At the conclusion of the address Sir EDWARD FRY thanked Mr. Elton for the interesting description he had given them of the Court. The visitors then proceeded through the different rooms of the mansion, which are marked throughout by the beauty of antiquity. In answer to a lady, who asked which was the bedroom in which Thackeray was accustomed to sleep, Mr. Elton informed her that the great novelist visited Clevedon Court so often that he probably slept in every room in the house, at one time and another. Before leaving, the party ascended the turrets to the roof, where a delightful view of the picturesque grounds of the Court was obtained.

Clevedon Parish Church.

The party next drove to the parish church of St. Andrew, where Mr. EDMUND BUCKLE, hon. Diocesan Architect, commenced the first of his descriptions of the churches. He first of all remarked upon the distance it was from the Clevedon

Court House. In most parishes they found that the church was near the Court House, but here the Court House was right at the other end of the parish. It was a very interesting point, and one which he thought might well be worked out by local archæologists. The church was one which had its history plainly written upon it. There was certainly there in Norman times a small church of cruciform shape, with a central tower, but without aisles; and the nave was very much smaller than the present one. The two Norman arches remaining under the tower were remarkable for their oval shape, which gave them somewhat the effect of pointed arches. It was quite obvious that the original church had no aisles, by the buttresses which remained in the nave, and from the position of the buttresses it could be seen how much narrower the nave of the Norman church was than the present. The north transept still retained the Norman walls, but the chancel seemed to have been entirely rebuilt, though a large number of the Norman corbels have been preserved. The first great change in the plan of the church was the pulling down of the Norman nave in order to erect a larger nave, which took place probably in the 13th century. The new nave had no aisle any more than the Norman nave had. It was quite clear that the object of the re-building was to obtain a larger space, for the north-west corner of the nave was carried to the extreme limit available, and a wide splay cut off this angle externally to avoid interference with some object beyond or with the boundary of the churchyard, and the additional width of the new nave was obtained mainly on the south side, and so the nave was thrown much out of the centre of the chancel. There was no clerestory, and although the width of the Early English nave was the same as now, the height was very much less. The north transept was added at the same time as the nave. That, like the nave, was placed quite out of the centre of the arch leading to the tower, and for a similar reason—the desire for space and width. The eccentric position of the nave prevented the transept from being widened to-

wards the west, so all the additional width had here to be obtained on the east side, and the centre line was thrown a great deal to the east of the centre line of the tower. In spite of the great length of this transept there was only one small window in the east wall. After the completion of the nave and transept, the two tall arches looking towards this nave and transept were inserted in the tower, giving it a very lop-sided appearance. The next step in the growth of the church was the addition of the south aisle, which was of the Decorated period. The arcade should be specially noticed on account of the peculiar way in which the arches spring from corbels instead of capitals. The rood has been in two different places. Just over the Norman chancel arch, on the north side, could be seen an opening, which must have led into the rood loft at one time; but later on the rood loft was moved to a position west of the nave arch. With regard to the furniture of the church, the bench ends were noticeable from their having poppyheads—some were old and some new. Mr. Buckle referred to the reading-desk, which contained four panels of Dutch carving, each with an inscription in the Dutch language. Attention was called to the indications of a gallery in the porch, across the top of the south doorway, the purposes of which were not known. It, however, seemed clear that it must have been put there for some ritual purpose. They knew that in the middle ages the first part of the wedding service took place at the porch, and this gallery may have been for the musicians. At the conclusion of Mr. Buckle's description of the church, several of the party inspected the tomb of Arthur Hallam, who lies buried there. He was only in his twenty-third year when he died at Vienna, and his remains were brought to Clevedon for interment. His father, as is well known, was the celebrated historian of the Middle Ages, while his mother was Julia Maria, daughter of Sir A. Elton, Bart., of Clevedon Court. Tennyson's reference to his friend's last resting-place in his "In Memoriam," is well known.

Tea at Clevedon Hall.

After leaving the church, the party proceeded to Clevedon Hall, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hill, who had invited the archæologists to tea. Mrs. Hill graciously received the guests, and she and Mr. Hill and their sons and daughters were assiduous in their attentions to the wants of the party, who afterwards inspected the beautiful conservatories and grounds of the mansion, spending a most enjoyable time there.

The Evening Meeting.

In the evening a meeting was held in the Public Hall, Clevedon, for the reading of papers and discussion thereon. Sir EDWARD FRY presided.

A paper had been prepared by Mr. McMurtrie on "Ancient British or Roman Discoveries in the Quarries of Radstock," (*see* Part II), but Mr. McMurtrie was unable to attend through illness, and the paper was read by the Rev. H. H. WINWOOD. At the hall were exhibited a number of specimens to show the nature of the deposits.

At the conclusion of the paper, the CHAIRMAN said it was interesting to observe the remains of the pre-historic iron age, and that the second remains, supposed to be later, contained bronze. He thanked Mr. Winwood for reading the paper.

The Rev. E. H. BATES next read a learned paper on "The Five-Hide-Unit in the Somerset Domesday," his remarks being illustrated by a printed chart (*see* Part II).

The CHAIRMAN said they all knew that the investigation of hidage was one on which a great deal had been written, and on which a great deal of light was still required, and the paper just read was a very interesting contribution to it. It convinced them of one thing at least, that the difficulty of equal taxation was not a modern one. Their thanks were due to Mr. Bates for his interesting paper.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was heartily accorded. Mr. Weaver also mentioned how deeply grateful they were to Mr. C. Tite, who had kindly undertaken the duties of Mr. Bidgood in his absence. Had not Mr. Tite so willingly given his services, the meeting could not have taken place. They were much indebted to him for the assistance he was rendering.

This concluded the first day's proceedings.

Second Day's Proceedings.

Favoured with a continuance of fine weather, the members of the Society commenced their excursions on Wednesday morning to the various churches and places of interest in the neighbourhood. The party, numbering over eighty, set out in brakes from Walton Park Hotel, the first stopping-place being

Yatton Church.

Mr. EDMUND BUCKLE said this church, like the one they saw at Clevedon the previous day, was cruciform in plan, with the tower right in the centre, and with the tower piers very massive, so that the chancel was, to a large extent, blocked out from the nave, very much as was the case at Clevedon. It seemed almost certain that there must have been a Norman church there, comparatively a small one, with a central tower, and as the church became changed and enlarged, from time to time, the original Norman building left its influence on all the successive stages. There was nothing left in Yatton church which they could actually trace back further than to the Decorated period—the first half of the 14th century—but the plan, the massive pillars under the tower, and the low arches rising from these pillars, pointed pretty distinctly to a Norman church of the same form. The lower part of the tower was actually of the Decorated period, and that was the oldest part of this interesting church, though the two transepts were nearly of



YATTON.

Interior.

the same date. Originally there was certainly no north aisle, for the tower had a buttress at the north-west corner, but during the Decorated period this aisle was added, a fragment of which still clings to the base of the tower pier. The nave at this time must have been small and low. The chancel was a pretty example of Early Perpendicular, which it was interesting to compare with the later Perpendicular so common in Somerset. The whole of the nave, clerestory, and aisles had been rebuilt in the richest manner of this latter style. He directed attention to a curious fact in connection with the windows in the aisle, that there was hardly an example of a window being in the middle between two vaulting shafts. That was characteristic of how these old churches were set out, as they rarely found windows exactly opposite one another. In a new church the windows were generally arranged symmetrically. The north chapel was an addition considerably later than the rest of the building, and was probably about the middle of the fifteenth century. He called attention to the beautiful features in the mortuary chapel of Sir John Newton and his wife, Isabel de Chedde. There was a magnificent monument against the north wall, which was the important feature of the chapel. Among the peculiar features of the monument was a representation of the Annunciation. The date of Sir John Newton's death was 1487, and it was almost certain that the chapel was built by him in his lifetime. The tracery of the windows bore a striking resemblance to that in the Chain Gate at Wells, which was erected shortly after 1465. There was also, in the north transept, a figure in alabaster of the father of Sir John, Sir Richard Newton, serjeant and judge, represented in his red gown with the serjeant's coif on his head, and a wallet by his side to contain the seal. The figure of his wife, elaborately dressed in mitre headdress and flaunches, appeared on the same tomb. In recesses, in this transept, were also figures of a man and woman of the latter part of the thirteenth century. The rood loft seemed to have

been curiously arranged, since the entrance to it was in the north-west corner of the north transept. One of the most interesting volumes of the Record Society contained a number of churchwardens' accounts, and among them were those of Yatton, in which was a mass of information about the building and repairing of the church. In 1445 the accounts commenced, and at the time they were building a church-house and doing work in the belfry. Directly after that, in 1447, occurred the first entry concerning the rood-screen. The churchwardens went to Easton-in-Gordano to look at the rood-screen there, and in the same year there was the mason's bill for erecting a pulpit and two altars. He (Mr. Buckle) did not think it was a pulpit as they understood the word now, but the lower part of the rood-screen. That would account for the two altars, as there were usually two altars, against the rood-screen. In the same year they found a carpenter engaged upon the rood-loft, which was variously described as *Alle*, *Aler*, and *solarium*. The work was given to John Cross, the village carpenter, who had a shop at Claverham, about a mile away, and this was an example of how capable the artisans of the country were in the old times that the lower part of an elaborate screen should have been entrusted to the village mason, and the upper part to the village carpenter. They had not a carver in the village, however, so that the order for 69 images went to a foreigner. The cost of the figures was £3 10s. 4d., just over 1s. 1d. each. In 1457 there was an entry of £31 2s. 11d., as being the total amount of Cross, the carpenter's bill. The next item of interest was for white-washing the church, a frequent proceeding in mediæval times. The entry ran *pro dealbatione ecclesiæ*. It was a common opinion that whitewashing was inartistic and modern. It might be inartistic but certainly was not modern. In 1482 there was a charge for the "closing between the church and the chancel," and he thought what was referred to might be the temporary screens put into the arches in order to

build the Newton chapel. In 1531 there was mention of an iron beam before the high altar, which was the work of a local smith, with apparently a great deal of decorative work about it. They might glean that the altars were the high altar of St. Mary, and those of St. James, St. Nicholas, and St. Catherine. There were also images of St. Sunday, St. Thomas, St. John, St. George, and a gigantic figure of St. Christopher painted on the wall. There was in the churchyard an entirely separate chapel, respecting which, at the abolition of the chantries, the inhabitants made humble suit that it might be taken down and the stones used as "a sluice against the rage of the sea for the safeguard of the country." Outside the church Mr. Buckle drew attention to the delicate carving on the front of the south porch, with a coat-of-arms apparently for Montacute or Sherborne. The window at the end of the south transept was plainly seen to be entirely different in character to those in the nave. Mr. Buckle next spoke of the tower with its broken spire. The turret was in a rather peculiar position. Moreover, it was not octagonal but hexagonal; a form used very much in the southern part of the county, at Crewkerne and neighbourhood. It was a question whether the spire of this church was ever completed. It might have been left unfinished, or perhaps it had to be taken down on account of some accident such as having been struck by lightning. He should think, judging by the churchwardens' accounts, that there could have been no possible question about want of funds for completing it, and he felt sure that at the end of the mediæval period there must have been a perfect spire. The accident which reduced it to its present form probably occurred at a later period, when there was no longer money easily obtainable for restoring it. The west front of the church was probably, with the exception of Crewkerne, the finest in the county. That at Crewkerne was very similar, but much more elaborate, and the hexagonal turrets were repeated here, so that it seemed probable that the architect came from the

Crewkerne district. Mr. Buckle then accompanied the party round to the north side of the church and pointed out that, unlike many churches where the north side was meanly treated, this north side at Yatton was as well finished as any other part of the church, and that from the north-west part of the churchyard one could obtain a very good view of the entire building.

Congresbury Church

was next visited. Mr. BUCKLE said that this church presented the greatest contrast to Yatton church as regarded the general effect, yet there were several features in which it bore a considerable resemblance to it. Here they found an Early English nave and aisles, and the first thing which must strike one in coming into the church was the remarkable difference between the two arcades. The one on the south side had four black shafts around it with nothing to support, while the other one was a simple natural arcade. The arrangement now existing on the south side, of a round central pier carrying the arches flanked by black shafts which carried nothing, was excessively ugly, and in its present state quite modern. Certainly when the arcade was first built the shape of the pillar was as at present, for the bases were genuine Early English, and provided for all five shafts. But that pillar was intended to carry perfectly plain, heavy, square arches, resting on all the five shafts, instead of the present light molded arches. When (probably in the 14th century) it was desired to lighten the appearance of the church, they took down the heavy square arch, but, like sensible people, they also took down the four shafts at the corners of each pier, and thus lightened the whole effect of the arcade. But when the time came for restoring the church, the ingenious restorer found from the bases of the pillars that four shafts had been there primarily, so he put up those four black shafts which presented such an extraordinarily foolish appearance. The north arcade was very different, probably a little

later in date, and was interesting as being as early an example as they could find of the pier which became practically universal in Somerset in the Perpendicular period—a pier with four little attached shafts, one on each face. The tower arch, like those of the south arcade, was presumably Decorated, and he thought the bases of the chancel arch were of the same period. Then came the usual Perpendicular enlargement, and in that case it consisted of the raising of all the aisle walls and the insertion in them of large windows; the raising of the nave walls and the addition of a clerestory of rather an unusual character, consisting of a large number of small windows all close together—two windows in every bay. Some of the arrangements of the church were exceedingly interesting. The step on which he was standing at the entrance to the chancel, seemed to have been intended as a seat. The base of the rood screen was a stone wall, which had been richly ornamented, but was now much damaged. The side screen, however, which was of similar design, was beautifully frescoed; the whole of the stone tracery remained with stone buttresses at intervals. That low stone wall was intended to carry the ordinary oak screen over, but that upper part had been very much pulled about, and had clearly been made up again at some subsequent period. How exactly that screen, the base of which stood there, was brought forward to meet the stone corbels left standing it was difficult to say. It looked as though there had been an elaborate piece of vaulting under the gallery, as at Dunster. The screen leading from the aisle into the chapel was again in two parts. The lower part of it was most interesting, for there was a seat attached to it, facing the altar that was in the chapel. Attention was called to the two corbels which carried the ends of the loft, on which were inscriptions not very easy to read. The most interesting Decorated work in the church consisted of the two square windows in the chancel and chapel. though, perhaps, their beauty was questionable, as they were rather bald-looking. Their date was of the 14th century. On

the outside they would observe that it was another church with a spire. Spires were distinctly uncommon in that county, but there was a band of them which ran across the county, from Kewstoke to Frome, and one of them, Croscombe spire, was almost identical with this one. Here, as at Yatton, there was a chapel in the churchyard, and in this case it was dedicated to St. Michael. There were remains of two crosses, one in the churchyard, and another just outside in the roadway.

The vicar of the parish, the Rev. R. H. MAUNSELL-EYRE, being away, the curate, the Rev. J. H. CRAVEN, read a few notes which had been prepared by the vicar. He called attention to the registers, which were in a chest in the vestry, which dated from the year 1543. Parts of the vicarage, dated from 1446, and the arms carved on the porch were those of the bishopric, Bishop Beckington's, and those of the Poultney family. What connection they had with it he could not tell. The font was the oldest part being early Norman. The stump of the yew tree in the churchyard was said to be St. Congar's walking stick. The cross in the churchyard was erected as a memorial to Mr. Hardwick, who was attacked by highwaymen and shot in several places, but delivered his assailants to justice.

The next stopping-place was

Writington Church.

Here Mr. BUCKLE first of all alluded to the tower. He said that it had attained great distinction as being that which Professor Freeman had described as the finest square western tower of any parish church in this country (and therefore probably in the world), not intended for a spire or lantern. But Mr. Buckle did not share Freeman's views, he thought the tower had been over-rated, but he agreed that it was a remarkably fine one. In order to do the tower justice, it must be looked upon as intended for a much smaller church. The



CONGRESBURY



church for which that tower was designed was a church not much higher and not much wider than the chancel, and with such a building as that there was no doubt that the tower would have looked much better than at present. The nave was exceedingly short and dumpy, and it was cramped in between the chancel at one end, and the tower at the other. Proceeding inside the church, Mr. Buckle said that over the tower arch could be seen the work of the old nave roof which the tower was designed to suit. The chancel was of the Early English period, but with Perpendicular additions. When the nave was rebuilt it was widened as well as heightened, and the western bay of the chancel had been corbelled out to allow of this. He drew attention to the trefoil arch in the clerestory, the width of the clerestory windows which were of three lights instead of the usual two. The whole of the nave was a very pretty piece of work, but it certainly wanted, for proportion, greater length. The screen there seemed to have been a good deal pulled about, and much of it removed. There were also remains of the Perpendicular reredos which was now restored, and it was not easy to say how much of it was old and how much was new.

Some of the old registers were shown and the communion plate.

Wrighton is famous as having been the birthplace of Locke, the philosopher. In the church is a tablet to Hannah More, who with her sisters lies buried in the churchyard. An entry in the parish registers mentions the payment of "one shilling for killing an author." "Otter" is the word which was evidently meant.

Brockley Church.

After luncheon at the "Golden Lion" Hotel, the party proceeded to visit Brockley Church and Court. Mr. BUCKLE said this was a totally different kind of church to those they had already seen. They had seen grand works of architecture

before, but here they had a small, quiet, country church. There was here no division between the nave and the chancel, except that the chancel roof was about a foot lower than the nave roof, so that a sort of chancel arch was formed in the woodwork of the roof. That was a rather curious feature in that part of the county, because it belonged emphatically to the western corner of England. It was very common throughout Cornwall and Devonshire, and there were several instances of it west of Taunton. The body of the church there was Early English, but there was one fragment of the Norman period in the very beautiful font, which was circular right from the bottom to the top. The arch leading into the chapel was also a portion of the Early English work. When the Perpendicular change came it made very little difference here, though the roof belonged to that period. He called attention to the altar cloth, the centre part of which was modern. It had exceedingly beautiful lace fringed with filagree work. What its date was or where it came from he was entirely unable to say. There was a monument in the chantry to the Rev. Wadham Pigott.

The Court House was afterwards visited, and much interest was displayed in the inspection of some of the rooms. The party then drove to

Chelvey Church.

This church, said Mr. BUCKLE, was almost identical with the church they had just left, as regarded its plan and general arrangement. It had been restored in a very charming way. The entrance was through a Norman doorway. This church, like the other, was in the main Early English. The arcade was Early Perpendicular. The heads of the sepulchral arches in the south chapel wall had lost their finials, and the monuments were entirely lost. The whole of the church was very rough and irregular in the setting out, the floors were uneven, and the chapel had the further irregularity of being wider at

the east end than at the west end. Here, as at Yatton and Congresbury, the lower part of the rood screen was of stone. The position of the rood loft was indicated on the arch immediately above. There was one stone missing. That stone stood out, no doubt, as a corbel, and it was on the top of that stone that the gallery rested. He drew attention to the arrangement of the two altar reredoses. The central part of the principal reredos was entirely modern, but was set in the frame of stone work which was all old. On the top was a pretty cornice, the greater part of which was also old. On both sides of the reredos were niches for figures, but there was nothing now left of the ornamental work. Precisely the same arrangement was repeated at the end of the chapel. There was the same square recess over the altar for the reredos. He also called attention to the corbels on each side of the chancel. These corbels supported the ends of the Lenten veil, which completely shut out the east end of the church from view. At the west end of the aisle was a most magnificent Court pew of the Jacobean period. The oak had never been oiled, and so had turned to a soft white, as old oak did when left to itself. The roof was of the Perpendicular period, and part of it was new. The old rafters were nearly white. Here, again, the font was a Norman one. There was a little stained glass in the windows, including some coats of arms. The tower of the church was also like that at Brockley—a small west tower with no pretensions, and with just a diagonal buttress. There was a frame for an hour-glass by the pulpit, with the glass missing. The old seats were interesting, but they were a rough lot.

Chelvey Court was next visited, and what remains of the fine old mansion, once the residence of the Tynte family, was inspected with considerable curiosity. The house was well worth seeing, especially the staircase, though care had to be exercised in visiting some of the spacious rooms, on account of the decaying condition of the flooring. Enquiries were made for the secret chamber, but this was believed to have been de-

molished when the upper part of the structure was taken down some years ago.

Nailsea Court, another old mansion in the neighbourhood, was also visited, and this fine old building was in a much better state of preservation, and is now partly used as a farmhouse.

Tickenham Church.

The day's programme concluded with a visit to Tickenham Church. Mr. BUCKLE, in describing it, said the church formed a great contrast to some of the others visited. The chancel arch was exceedingly small, and was very early work, and had something of the appearance of a Saxon arch, but he was disposed to consider it as an early Norman arch. The two arcades were not very much later than the Norman period—probably twelfth century. The simplicity of the work it would be impossible to beat. There were no pillars or capitals, but square piers supporting plain square arches. The early church there appeared to have had its aisle on the north side of the nave as at present, but on the south side there appeared to have been only two bays in the original aisle. The tall arch at the east end of the arcade appeared to have been a later insertion. It was curious that on the next pillar was the only attempt at decoration, which had delicate shafts with fine twelfth century foliage. It looked as though the transept had been added on to the south side. There were three thirteenth century figures in the north aisle—two men in armour and one a lady. A good deal of old glass was scattered about here and there in the different windows. In the old chapel was a figure of the Crucifixion in the side window. In the aisle a good deal of heraldic glass was left in the tracery. Among them were one or two examples of the Berkeley arms, the family having once resided at the Court House. The arrangement of the rood-loft was peculiar; there was a squint window in the loft to enable the person standing there to see the high altar.

He had very little doubt that the person whose duty it was to ring the sanctus bell stood on the rood-loft.

The oldest entry in the parish register was 1538. The new altar was put in in 1812.

The party were afterwards driven into Clevedon, and this concluded the second day's proceedings.

Third Day's Proceedings.

The number of excursionists was not quite so large on Thursday, the third day, about seventy leaving Clevedon at 9.30 a.m. in the brakes to complete the last day of the programme. The weather was again delightfully fine. The first stopping place was

Clapton-in-Gordano Church and Court.

The Court House was first viewed from the exterior.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER explained that the house was originally the seat of the Arthur family, and on the front door was a coat-of-arms of the Arthurs. In response to a request to give the derivation of the name "In Gordano," Mr. Weaver replied that Bishop Hobhouse considered it was a regional name, indicating a particular region in that district.

Mr. BUCKLE, in describing the church, said that for the most part it was Early English. The north side was the most interesting position from which to see the church. The tower was very early, it had got almost a Norman appearance on the outside. The screen leading into it was a fine massive piece of oak work, and had been recently brought there from Clapton Court. It was exceedingly rough though handsome, and in the middle was a coat-of-arms representing agricultural products. The spandrels of the screen above the arch were modern.

A gentleman explained that this screen stood originally in the manor house, and it was thought to be the latest

example in England of domestic woodwork. It remained in the gardens for some years, exposed to the ravages of the weather, and at last it found a refuge in God's house, where he hoped it would remain. He was sorry that modern additions were now put in it.

Resuming, Mr. BUCKLE said that the piers supporting the chancel arch were of a very rich character, with a number of good mouldings, and the capitals were treated in an extraordinary fashion, the purpose of which was to connect jambs and arch of different dates and forms unsuited to meet each other. On each side of the reredos were two pillars. Over them the moulding was corbelled out to form two stands no doubt intended for images. And the bases of the shafts were Early English capitals turned upside down. The porch there appeared to be another of those porches which had a gallery across it.

The Rev. G. MASTER, of Flax Bourton, gave a short description of the Arthur family, and said that the estate, after it had been in the family for a number of centuries, on their becoming extinct was invested in the Winter family. The chapel contained a monument and a number of tablets to the Winter family.

Weston-in-Gordano Church.

The next place visited was Weston-in-Gordano Church, and Mr. BUCKLE explained its most salient features. He said that the most remarkable feature about the church was the gallery in the porch, and so far as he knew it was the only church in England which possessed the gallery *in situ*. The gallery went right across the door leading into the church, showing that it was quite an addition to the building.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER remarked that Col. Bramble, who had made a study of these galleries, was of opinion that it was used for service on Palm Sunday.

Proceeding inside, Mr. BUCKLE said it was an exceedingly charming little church, and besides the gallery already mentioned, the whole building was one of the most attractive, to his mind, of those they had on their round that day. There was only one feature about the structure which was not of any particular beauty, and that was the chapel which had been added to it on the east side of the tower, and which spoiled, to a large extent, the general view of the church as seen from the main entrance gate. Passing round the north side, it gave one the impression of being a Norman church, but he had hunted all round the walls with the greatest care, and he had been able to find no Norman masonry. But it must be a conservative re-building of a Norman church, although all the walls were of the Perpendicular period. The nave of the church was very highly finished throughout. The tower was Early English, 13th century work, which was the only remains of the older building. The nave was not parallel with the tower. The very curious little stone pulpit was partially of the same date. The chancel was a good deal later than the nave, but it was added on in an admirable manner, so as to give the idea that it was part of the same design. The windows were very elaborate, but they harmonised with those in the nave. There was in the outline of the roof the same trefoil which they had seen at Wrington and Yatton, which shewed that in this district there was a decided revival towards the end of the 15th century of the old 13th century trefoil. The tower of the 13th century had got an arch on its eastern face, which shewed that there must have been a chapel or apse on that side. When the chancel was built, however, there was no chapel there, and some time, probably in the 16th century, the chapel was added in what might be called the mean modern manner. The screen was a bit of patch work, and seemed to have been put together anyhow. The stalls in the chancel were of very great interest, but most of the carving was of a rough character. Many of the seats in the nave were old, and there was seen again the

unusual feature in the poppy heads. As a general rule the Somerset seats had square tops, not poppy heads. On the right-hand side of the church, facing the west, was a monument to Sir Richard Percival, which was elaborately painted. He died in 1483. The monument was remarkable for having an inscription in French, at such a late date. There was a monument in this churchyard with the modern inscription "R.P. 1190," but Mr. Buckle thought that was a misleading date, because the cross on the top of the tomb was of considerably later date than that. Besides the narrow pulpit in the wall, there was also a Jacobean pulpit.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER remarked that the manor house here used to be the principal seat of the Percival family.

The Rev. T. G. BIRD, the Rector, afterwards read an interesting paper on the church, as follows :

"This church, although it has not much to boast of as regards its size, may justly claim a place among the most interesting of the churches of this diocese. For there are few churches to be found at the present day retaining so much of their ancient fittings as may be found here, where the church presents almost the same appearance as it must have done in the middle ages.

Whether there was a church here previous to the Norman Conquest is uncertain, but if not, one was built at that period, most probably by Ascelin, son of Robert Percyvale, Lord of Ivery, who accompanied the Conqueror in his expedition, and was rewarded with a grant of land at Quantock and East Harptree. Ascelin is mentioned in Domesday book as possessor of the Manor of Weston.

The church was either rebuilt or restored in the fifteenth century by Sir Richard Percyvale, who died 1483, and whose tomb remains on the north side of the nave. It has been thought from the appearance of the north wall, that the work then carried out consisted principally of altering the windows to the present Perpendicular style, and raising the walls two or

three feet to admit of the addition of the tracery. If this be so, the church is practically the original building.

The Norman font remains *in situ*, together with the high altar, the pillars in front of which are, however, modern. In the porch should be noticed the choir gallery, immediately over the south entrance to the church, and approached by a flight of stone stairs in the wall. Some nine or ten other churches in this neighbourhood formerly possessed similar ones, but all, with the exception of this, have now disappeared. Its use was, doubtless, to accommodate the choir at certain functions. In the Sarum missal, which was the one in use in most of the province of Canterbury, it is ordered that during the procession on Palm Sunday, seven boys should sing, on the south side of the church, *eminente loco*, the verses of the hymn, "All glory, laud and honour." This "high place" seems to have been generally erected for the occasion, but in this church, and some others, assumed a more permanent form. It may also have been used at the benediction of the fields at Rogation-tide, and perhaps for the first part of the marriage service, which then began at the church door, not, as now, at the choir gates.

Returning to the nave, the bench ends, with one or two exceptions, are the original work—those at the west end being the oldest. In the south wall, adjoining the arch opening into the tower, is a curious thirteenth-century stone pulpit. It is of simple construction, but interesting as an early specimen of a fixed pulpit. Opposite to it is another pulpit of oak, of the time of James II.

Originally the church contained four altars. In addition to the two still remaining, there was one on either side of the rood-screen, at the east end of the nave. A bracket on the north side is all that remains of the altar which stood there, but the one on the south side was *in situ* at the time Rutter wrote his history (1829), and is thus described by him—"At the east end of the nave is a stone oratory with a consecrated water-drain adjoining, westward of which is a curious reading-

loft of stone, approached by two steps." This, of course, refers to the pulpit already mentioned. The aumbry and piscina belonging to this altar are still perfect, and the return screen separating the chapel from the nave was in existence some forty years ago. These return screens, on either side, explain the absence of doors to the rood-screen. This latter is of fifteenth-century work, and was, of course, surmounted by the rood loft, of which there are now no remains, except one of the corbels which supported it, and the stone stairs, cut in the tower wall, by which it was approached.

In the choir, the ancient oak stalls with misereres (an unusual feature in a village church) remain in good condition. They are of fourteenth-century design, and there were originally four return stalls on either side the screen, but these have, with mistaken zeal, been removed to make room for a couple of modern prayer desks.

The chapel of St. Mary Magdalen, on the south side of the choir, is the most modern part of the church. There appears to be no record of its erection, but it is mentioned in the will of Sir James Perceval in 1536, wherein he directs that "his body be buried in the chapel of Mary Maudlyn in the church of Weston-in-Gordano." Its south window, and the wall below it, were removed from the chancel to make the arch opening into it, the eastern wall being built of rubble, with a window above the altar, much inferior in design. At the west end of the chapel another arch opens into the tower. Some years since, in rebuilding the organ, the ancient slab of the altar of St. Mary Magdalen was found beneath the organ platform, and it was restored to its original position.

Although the Percyvale family resided here for upwards of six centuries, their monuments are singularly few. It is possible that the havoc wrought by the Puritans during the Rebellion may account for the destruction of some. The family were staunch Royalists, and their property suffered much during those troublous times. The manor house and church were

ransacked, and records, registers, painted glass and other ornaments ruthlessly destroyed. The earliest remaining monument is the altar tomb in the churchyard near the porch. It is to the memory of Richard Percyvale, a crusader, who, as recorded by Lodge, died in the second year of king John, and was buried "in the church of Weston Gordeyn, under a magnificent monument of brass, gilt." There are two full-length crosses upon it, and sockets for six pillars, formerly supporting a canopy. Round the margin was the inscription, "*Orate pro anima Ricardi Percyvale qui militavit in Terra Santa cum Rege Rycardo A.D. MCXC.*"

It would seem that after being mutilated by the Puritans, the stonework, no longer any ornament to the church, was removed to its present position. A copy of the original inscription has recently been inserted on a metal plate, below the slab.

Another monument, fortunately in good preservation, is that on the north side of the nave, to the memory of Sir Richard Percyvale, the restorer of the church in fifteenth century. It is elaborately decorated in gold and colours, and has upon its canopy three shields, one bearing the arms of Percyvale, impaled with those of Hampton, this Sir Richard having married Catherine, co-heiress of Richard Hampton, a gentleman of this county. The left-hand shield contains the arms of Ballowe and Cheddar, and the third has the Percyvale arms, together with another, unknown. Three angels below the canopy bear a scroll with this inscription: "*Richard Percyvale, y^e Lord have mercy,*" and on another scroll below, "*For Thy byttyr Passion bring hys soule to Thy salvacion.*" On the slab of the tomb, in Norman French, remarkable at so late a date, "*Cy gyste le corps de Rycharde Percyval le quel mourut l'an de boinet Jesus M.CCCC.LXXXIII. Dieu ay pitie de son ame.*"

Of Sir James, before mentioned, who was buried in the chapel of St. Mary Magdalen, no monument remains. Whether

it was destroyed by the Puritans, or whether he thought the chapel, of which he was probably the founder, sufficient memorial, we can only conjecture.

A few small headstones in the churchyard are the only other memorials of the family. The manor house, a stately building of fourteenth century, was still standing, in a dilapidated condition, within living memory, but has now entirely disappeared. The farm buildings, below the church, mark its site, and are probably largely constructed from its remains.

The registers date only from 1684, the earlier ones, as I before remarked, having been destroyed by the fanatical Puritans. The entries up to the beginning of the present century are very carelessly made, in many cases by an illiterate clerk, and many years have no entry at all.

The list of the rectors dates back to 1314, and for the greater part of the last two centuries they seem to have been non-resident, the parish during that period having apparently always been held in plurality, and with praiseworthy impartiality it has been tacked on to every one of the adjoining parishes in turn, though they are all in different patronage.

I omitted to say that the ancient sanctus bell remains in its turret above the chancel arch, and in the tower is a fine peal of bells, four of which are dated 1645.

In the absence of the President, the Rev. F. W. WEAVER thanked Mr. Bird for his paper.

Portishead Church

was the next place *en route*, but as time was short the party did not stay long here. Mr. BUCKLE pointed out the modern gallery in the porch which appeared to be only an alteration of the ancient gallery. The wall between the gallery and the church had been taken out and a pew made looking into the church. Attention was also directed to the staircase leading to the gallery. Mr. Buckle also alluded to the pinnacles on

the tower, which he said were fine and distinctive, and like those to be seen at Evercreech. There was little to be said about the inside of the church, though the columns were of rather a curious shape, and appeared to be an experiment. A curious feature of the church was the position of the pulpit, as it was approached by a staircase in the wall in a manner which looked as if originally it had led to the rood-loft. The pulpit stood out from the wall, and was reached by a wooden bridge.

After luncheon at the Portishead Hotel, the drive was resumed to

Portbury Church

where Mr. BUCKLE again took up the part of guide. He drew the attention of the visitors to the fact that the church was entered by a Norman door. Outside the building were also to be seen indications of Norman pilasters on several corners, notably at the two corners at the east end of the chancel and both the corners of the aisle. All those corners were, if not Norman, very old. Everything pointed to the church having been a distinctly important one from an early date. One of the first things which struck one in entering the church was its great size, and the magnificent gangways helped to give dignity to the appearance of the church. There was Norman work in the arch of the chancel, though the arch had been very much altered since it was first built, for the original Norman arch was very much smaller. It had been taken down and rebuilt probably some time in the thirteenth century. The arches and the nave were rather characteristic from the fact that they had no capitals. The two windows at the east end of the aisles were noteworthy, each containing five lancets united under one arch. On the north side of the chancel there was an enormous squint which reached the dimensions of a small chapel. Just beyond there was another chapel with a stone barrel vault. The sedilia in the chancel and in the south aisle were of Early English date. Before closing he must

draw their attention to the magnificent yew trees in the churchyard. He had been told that the tradition in the place was that the trees were the same age as the tower.

Visit to Failand House.

A pleasant drive was then made to Failand House, where the members of the Society were kindly entertained to tea by the President (Sir Edward Fry) and Lady Fry. After tea there was a pleasant surprise in store, for the Misses Fry had trained some of the local school children to give an exhibition of old English pastimes. It was an excellent idea, and one well in keeping with the gathering, and it was much enjoyed by those present. The games were played on the tennis lawn, and the children were in costume; decked with garlands of flowers they looked pretty, and went through their sports with evident enjoyment. There were other old-fashioned dances and a modern one with ribbons, and the whole concluded with a pageant march. The pleasure of the scene was enhanced by a programme of music, in which old-world tunes were introduced. One of the Misses Fry and a cousin interpreted the vocal parts admirably, and Miss Bulton, of Clevedon, accompanied with a violin.

The sports represented by the Failand children were taken principally from the Rev. W. F. Galpin's "*Ye olde Englishe Pastimes*" (Novello and Co.). They were, as far as possible, reproductions of what used to take place, though, from all accounts, a good deal has always been left to the taste of the performers. Additional information was found in Chambers's "*Book of Days*" and Strutt's "*Sports and Pastimes of the English People*," and for the dresses the *Encyclopædia of Costume* was found useful, though in this respect it would have required too much elaboration to be strictly accurate. The music ranged in date from the thirteenth century—when the famous "*Sumer is i cumen in*" is supposed to

have been written—to the seventeenth. The songs were arranged for the occasion for two voices and a violin. The programme of music was as follows :

PASTIMES.

Enter Milkmaids and dance the Hey ! Enter Foresters !
Enter Queen of the Revels, carried by Shepherdesses, and attended by
Shepherds representing the Seasons.
Maypole Dance, interrupted by Morris Dancers representing Friar Tuck,
the Hobby Horse, the Jester, and the Dragon.
Foresters shoot at Popinjay.
The Victor is crowned by the Queen.
Shepherdesses and Milkmaids dance.
Sellinger's Round, or the end of the world.
Ribbon Dance (modern).
Maypole Dance.
Pageant March.
Ezeunt Omnes.

MUSIC.

"Dargason" (temp. Henry VIII).
"Tucket for the Horns" (17th century).
"The Hunt is up" (temp. Henry VIII).
"Summer is a-coming in" (cir. 1225).
"Under the Greenwood Tree" (temp. Charles I).
"Come, Lasses and Lads" (temp. Charles II).
"Trip and go," Morris dance (temp. Elizabeth).
"Now, Robin, lend to me thy bow" (before 1568).
"Sellinger's Round" (temp. Edward III).
"Joan to the Maypole" (temp. Charles II).
"Hobby Horse Dance" (temp. Charles II).
"Pageant March" (17th century).
"Golden Slumbers" (17th century).

At the conclusion, Mr. E. B. CELY-TREVILIAN, on behalf of the society, thanked Sir Edward Fry for his hospitality. In the domain of archæology, or in any other domain, between things which were purely ephemeral and things which were of a purely permanent character, they knew that they could not do better than place themselves under the guidance of a great judge.

Sir EDWARD FRY briefly returned thanks, and said it had been a great pleasure to him to take part in the proceedings of the Society's gathering.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER, on behalf of the society, also thanked Sir Edmund and Lady Elton for their hospitality, and Mr. Elton for his interesting paper on the history of Clevedon Court. He also thanked Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hill for entertaining them to tea at Clevedon Hall, also Mr. Edmund Buckle for so kindly giving his time in describing the churches. The society were also indebted to the help rendered by the local committee, not forgetting the Hon. Sec., Mr. Day; also thanks were due to the clergy for opening their churches, and to the owners and tenants of the houses they had visited. Last, though not least, their sincere thanks were due to Mr. Charles Tite, who very kindly came from Wales and undertook, at a moment's notice, to supply the place of Mr. Bidgood, in his unavoidable absence.

One of the party also added Mr. Weaver's name to the list of those to be thanked for their services, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. WEAVER, in returning thanks, humorously remarked that he hoped it would be his last appearance on the scene as "excursion secretary." He, however, had undertaken the office because Col. Bramble was not well. He should go back to Taunton and tell the committee that they ought to undertake this duty in succession.

Wraxall Church.

A short visit was next made to Wraxall Church, which was described by the Rev. G. S. MASTER, in the absence of Mr. Buckle. He said that he always looked upon the church and the one adjoining as being the most beautiful instance that he knew of a restored church in this century. The church had been restored by the munificence of the Gibbs family, Mr. Antony Gibbs having restored Wraxall Church, and Mr. Martin Gibbs the church of Barrow Gurney. The work of restoration at Wraxall had been carried out under the direction of Sir Arthur Blomfield. The chancel had been entirely re-

built, and the beautiful roof had been introduced, also the screen, of which he (Mr. Master) knew no finer example of modern work in wood carving. The screen had been extended to the organ and the organ-gallery, and, in doing that, part of the old rood screen had been utilised together with the staircase. The church was originally built about the middle of the fifteenth century, probably 1450, and it was a grand instance of a church of that date. The only portion of it now visible was the chancel arch. The porch was Early English, and the inner doorway was Norman in character. Beautiful stained glass had been introduced into the church by Mr. Kemp. The interior of the church was rather dark even on a very fine day, but this had been somewhat remedied by putting in some white glass in the east window, and other of the windows had had a large proportion of white glass placed in them with the same object. The restoration had only just been completed. There was a very fine tomb there of the Gordon family.

The Rev. G. S. Master having been thanked for his description of the building, this completed the three days' programme. The return journey was then made, Clevedon being reached at about 8 o'clock, and thus the proceedings were brought to a close.

Treasure Closet, Deanery, Wells.

DURING the repairs of external stone-work, June, 1899, at the Deanery, a horizontal hiding-place was discovered. On the north, or garden front of the deanery, is the new building of Dean Gunthorpe (1472-98), with its fortified tower. The banqueting hall, with its flat ceiling, had a grand guest-chamber over it, now sub-divided into two spacious bedrooms; and the embattled heads of two fine bay-windows—carrying Gunthorpe's guns, and Edward IV's *Rose en Soleil*—rise six feet above the ceiling of the banqueting hall.

In removing the decayed stone-work that roofed in the fan vault of the southern bay window, richly carved with Gunthorpe's badges (gun and hand grenade) an unsuspected hiding-place was laid bare. The original entrance was twenty-one inches square, opening from the floor of the eastern half of the great guest-chamber. This entrance had been closed, with lath and plaster, at a comparatively recent date, perhaps early last century. The floor line of the recess is one foot below the floor line of the bedroom, and the top of the aperture is eleven inches below the curve of the arch (8ft. 7in. span) that supports the external roof. The floor of the recess is 4ft. 1in. in width, large enough to have hidden, for a short time, a fugitive, even while Henry VII, on his march into the West against Perkin Warbeck, was entertained in the Banqueting Hall below, Sept. 30, 1497. Probably the recess was usually a receptacle for plate, tapestry, and other valuables; and, perhaps, no house of any importance, built before the end of the fifteenth century, was without some well-devised hiding-place. Dean Gunthorpe, as is well known, was not only a great scholar, who had studied Greek in Italy, but chaplain to Edward IV, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal to Richard III, and in possession of other well-endowed Court appointments. He was an ardent Yorkist, like the Bishop, his co-temporary, Richard Stillington, of Bath and Wells; and his estate had to pay to Henry VII a

ransom, or benevolence, of £200, equivalent, perhaps, to £3,000 of to-day. He was more fortunate than Bishop Stillington, who spent the last years of his life a State prisoner in Windsor Castle. (See *Somerset Archæological Society's Proceedings* (x1, ii. 5).

T. W. JEX-BLAKE.

The Rev. C. L. MARSON has kindly contributed the following note

On the Coleridge Cottage, Clevedon.

As one who has lived many years at Clevedon, I wish to draw the attention of your society to the fact that the so-called "Coleridge Cottage" is quite a fraud.

The old people of 1871 used to tell us that the poet lived first in a little potting-shed in a garden just below the old church (on the left as you go up from the road), and secondly, "in East Clevedon."

I think there can be no doubt as to the latter, and by a chain of evidence difficult to traverse I feel convinced that the poet really lived in a cottage on the Walton Road, due east of All Saints Church, and next door to the north of the blacksmith's shop. There are two cottages in this enclosure, and the poet's was the one next to the road.

(1). The Rev. E. C. Greville was vicar of Clevedon when the poet was resident and used to visit him.

(2). He used constantly to talk of this to his daughter, Miss Francis Greville, who lived to an advanced age and was well-known to me as a very shrewd and clever woman.

(3). Miss Frances Greville lived with her grand-niece, Miss F. Ruddock, now of Elm Dale, Clevedon, and frequently noticed the fact to her that a wrong house has the credit of Coleridge's residence. Miss Greville often pointed out the east Clevedon house as the real one.

(4). This is confirmed by Miss F. Greville, niece of the Miss Frances Greville mentioned above.

(5). But there is no porch to this house of "The Glen." Not now; but Mrs. Squires, an old lady who lived there for over thirty years, assures me that it had a stone-and-stick porch, which was taken away in her day, and which was covered with honeysuckle and roses.

If you would but take note of this just now it would help to stop the falsification of history on this small point.

CHARLES L. MARSON,

Son of the late Vicar of Clevedon.

Additions to the Society's Museum and Library

During the Year 1899.

THE MUSEUM.

Two Ten-pound Notes, Bridgwater and Somerset Bank.—
From Mr. ALBERT GOODMAN.

Copy of Certificate of Burial of Humphrey Blake, 1679 ;
extracts from Close Rolls, &c.—From Mr. JOHN KENT.

Painted beam from Naish Priory ; Casts of three Corbel
Heads from Naish Priory.—From Mr. G. T. CHAFYN-GROVE.

Constable's Staff, Tithing of East Street, 1619.—(Pur-
chased).

Engravings of the Interior of Westminster Hall, showing
the Dinner and Manner of Challenge ; Interior of Westminster
Abbey at the Coronation ; Inside of St. Peter's, Westminster,
before the Coronation.—From the Rev. D. J. PRING.

Protest against Church Rates, Taunton, 3rd month, 1842.—
From Mr. WM. GOODLAND.

Chard Borough Extension Medal, 1892. Public House and
Trade Checks : Taunton—Coffee Tavern, Co-operative Society,
Saracen's Head, Cridland's Fleur-de-Lis Inn, Old Angel,
Harris's Corn Cure. Bridgwater—Pitman's Three Crowns,
E. Wippell's Bowling Room. Keynsham—White Hart.
Bath—Fox and Hounds, Walcot Street. Watchet—Balmer's
Bell Inn (2). Dunster—Luttrell Arms. Frome—King's Head,
G. Hillier. Wincanton—J. A. Bailey's Greyhound, 1857 ; J.
Stay, Trooper Inn, 1846. Wells and Wookey Co-operative.
Nine Portraits of Somerset Worthies.—From Mr. C. TITE.

A large Oil Painting of the Last Supper, which had been
hanging in the Castle Hall for some years.—From Mr. F. C.
SANDERSON.

Memoranda of the First Somerset Militia, 1763—1815—
1828, made by Lieut. W. H. Chorley.—From Mr. W. JEWELL.

Photographs of the Cromlechs at L'Ancrese and De Hus., Guernsey.—From Mons. GIFFARD LE MESURIER.

Two old Glass Bottles, I. M. Nicholson, 1717.—From Mr. LAWRENCE.

Chuckram Travancore; *Somerset County Gazette*, No. 1, Dec. 31st, 1836, April 1, 8, July 1, 1843; *Somerset County Herald*, Oct. 28, Dec. 2, 9, 1843; Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 17, March 2, 9, 30, April 13, 27, 1844; Spirit of the Times, or the Social Reformer, March 27, 1847.—From Mr. H. READ.

Model of a Formosan Boat.—From Master FELIX BRICE.

THE LIBRARY.

Calendar of Bristol Deeds.—From Mr. J. W. BRAIKENRIDGE.

Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, vol. xi.—From the Academy.

Collections for a Parochial History of Backwell.—From the Northern Branch.

Slang and its Analogues, 4 vols.—From Dr. ROGERS.

Specimens of Ancient Sculpture and Painting now remaining in England, by Carter, 1887.—From Mr. C. H. SAMSON.

Northamptonshire Naturalists' Journal, Nos. 73—76.

Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem, Henry VII, pt. 1. *Somerset Carthusians*, by Miss Thompson.—From Rev. F. W. WEAVER.

Bowen's Maps of All the Counties of England.—From Mr. F. C. SANDERSON.

Notes and Queries, vols i to xi (several missing).—From Mr. EDGAR BENNETT.

The Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia; Folio Bible, 1770.—From Mrs. QUANTOCK.

Plymouth Institution, Reports and Transactions, 1830, vol. i, 1861-2, 1862-3, 1863-4, 1864-5, vol. ii, pt. 1, 2; 1865-7, vol. iii, pts. 1, 2, 3; 1867-9, vol. iv, pts. 1, 2, 3; 1869-71, vol. v, pts. 1, 2, 1873-5.—From Mr. P. D. PRANKERD.

Hull Scientific and Field Naturalists' Club, vol. i, no. 1, 1898.

Chicago Academy of Sciences. *Fortieth Annual Report*, 1897.

The Pleistocene Features and Deposits of the Chicago Area.

Memoir of Robert Hibbert, by Murch.

Essex Feet of Fines.

The Ancient Church Founts of Somerset, shown by description and draft.—From Mr. HARVEY PRIDHAM.

Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society Transactions, vol. v, pt. 6.

The Bishoprics and Lands of the Five Western Dioceses.—From the Rev. J. E. RISK.

Choice English Lyrics set to Music; Dainty Ditties, or Old Nursery Rhymes, set to Music.—From Professor ALLEN.

Sixtieth Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records. Guide to Queensland.

Side Light upon Coal Formation.—From Mr. W. S. GRESLEY.

The Bristol Royal Mail, by R. C. Tombs.—From Mr. E. J. THATCHER.

Castle Cary Visitor, Jan. to Dec., 1899.—From Mr. MACMILLAN.

Received from Societies in Correspondence for the Exchange of Publications.

Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland—*Journal*, nos. 220, 221, 222, 223.

British Museum (Natural History)—*List of Fossil Cephalopoda; the Genera and Species of Blastoidia.*

British Archæological Association—*Journal*, vol. iv, pt. 4; vol. v, pts. 1, 2, 3.

Society of Antiquaries of London—*Proceedings*, vol. xvii, no. 1.

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland—*Proceedings*, vol. xxxii, 1897-8.

Royal Irish Academy—*Transactions*, vol. xxxi, pt. 7; *Proceedings*, vol. v, nos. 2, 3.

Sussex Archæological Society—*Collections*, vol. xlii.

- Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland—*Journal*, vol. ix, pts. 1, 2, 3.
- Surrey Archæological Society—*Collections*, vol. xiv, pt. 2.
- Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society—vol. xiii.
- Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society—*Magazine*, no. 91, vol. xxx, no. 92 ; *Inquisitiones Post Mortem*, pt. 7 ; *Additions to the Library*, appendix 3.
- Plymouth Institution and Devon and Cornwall Natural History Society—*Report*, vol. xiii, pt. 1.
- Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. xxi, pt. 2.
- Powys Land Club—*Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. xxx, pt. 3 ; vol. xxxi, pt. 1.
- Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society—*Transactions*, vol. xi, pts. 1, 2, 3 ; *Calendar of the Muniments and Records of the Borough of Shrewsbury*.
- Hertfordshire Natural History Society—*Transactions*, vol. x, nos. 2, 3, 4.
- Essex Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. vii, pt. 3.
- Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. viii, pt. 6.
- Royal Institution of Cornwall—*Journal*, vol. xiii.
- Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club—vol. ix, no. 2.
- Geologists' Association—*Proceedings*, vol. xvi, pts. 2, 3, 4, 5.
- Royal Dublin Society—*Proceedings*, vol. viii, pt. 6 ; *Transactions*, vol. vi, pts. 14, 15, 16 ; vol. vii, pt. 1.
- Bristol Naturalists' Society—*Proceedings*, vol. viii, pt. 3.
- Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society—*Proceedings*, vol. xliii, pts. 1, 2.
- Barrow Naturalists' Field Club—vols. x, xii.
- Essex Field Club—*Essex Naturalist*, nos. 19—24 ; vol. x, nos. 1, 3.
- Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-on-Tyne—*Archæologia Æliana*, pt. 53 ; *Warkworth Parish Registers*, pt. 3.
- Clifton Antiquarian Club—*Proceedings*, vol. iv, pt. 2.

Cambridge Antiquarian Society—*Proceedings*, 1897, 1898 ;
Archbishop Parker's MSS. ; List of Members.

Chester Archæological and Historical Society—*Journal*, vol.
vi, pts. 1, 2, 3.

Thoresby Society, Leeds—vol. ix, pt. 2 ; vol. x, pt. 1.

The Reliquary and Illustrated Archæologist—vol. v, nos. 3, 4.

Geological Institution of the University of Upsala, Sweden—
Carl von Linné, pt. 7 ; *Bulletin of the Geological Institution*,
vol. iv, pt. 1.

Canadian Institute—*Proceedings*, no. 7, vol. ii, pt. 2.

Nova Scotian Institute—vol. ix.

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.—*Report of the*
U.S. National Museum, 1896 ; Some questions of Nomen-
clature ; Preliminary Account of an Expedition to the
Pueblo Ruins, 1896 ; Was Primitive Man a Modern
Savage ; Bows and Arrows in Central Brazil ; Account of
the work of the Service of Antiquities of Egypt. *Bulletin*,
no. 47, pts. 2, 3 ; *Proceedings*, vol. xx ; *Proceedings of the*
U.S. National Museum, vol. xxi. Stone Implements from
Lake Michigan ; The Omaha Tribe ; The Unity of the
Human Species ; Archæological Field Work in Arizona ;
Recent Research in Egypt ; Manageries of France ; the
Law under which lies Productive Colouration ; Life History
Studies of Animals ; On Soaring in Flight.

Essex Institute, Salem, Massachusetts, U.S.—*Bulletin*, 1896-7-8.

New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, U.S.—
Register, no. 209, 210, 211, 212 ; *Proceedings Annual*
Meeting, Jan., 1899.

Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, U.S.—*Proceed-*
ings, 1898, pt. 3 ; 1899, pt. 1.

University of California, U.S.—*Report of Agricultural Experi-*
ment Stations, 1895-97 ; *Conservation of Soil Moisture ; and*
several pamphlets on the University.

Société Vaudoise des Sciences Naturelles, Lausanne.—*Bulletin*,
no. 130, 131.

Purchased.

Harleian Society—*Registers of St. Martin-in-the-Fields ; Registers of St. Paul's Cathedral.*

Early English Text Society—*Queen Elizabeth's Englishings—Merlin*, pt. 4.

Somerset Record Society—*Feet of Fines*, Edw. II to Edw. III.

Ray Society—*Larvæ*, vol viii.

Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries, nos. 45, 46, 47.

Diocesan Histories—Bath and Wells.

Life of John Locke, by Lord King, 2 vols.

Life of Judge Jeffreys, by Irving.

English Dialect Dictionary, pts. 7, 8.

Barker's *Sermons*, 2 vols. ; *Twelve Sermons ; Catechism of the Kingdom of God*, by Greuber ; Mr. Grueber's *reply on Schism ; Saul and the Witch of Endor.*

Debrett's *Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage*, 1895.

Kelly's *Devonshire Directory*, 1893.

History of Taunton, Mass., 1893.

Archæologia, vol. xvi, pt. 1 ; vol. xxiii ; vol. xxxv, pt. 2 ; vol. 49, pt. 2 ; vol. 50, pts. 1, 2 ; vol. 51, pts. 1, 2 ; vol. 52, pt. 1.

Index, vols. 1—50.

Red Letter Days of My Life, by Mrs. Andrew Crosse.

British Mosses, by Sir Edward Fry.

Supplement to Notes of My Life.

Dr. Southwood Smith.

Life of Rosina, Lady Lytton.

Somersetshire Towers, 14 parts.

Life and Letters of Edward A. Freeman.

Oxford Historical Society—*Wood's City of Oxford*, vol. iii ; *Old Plans of Oxford.*

History of Northumberland, vol. v.

Index Saxonum.

Palæontographical Society, vol. liii, 1899.



GEORGE BROOK, LORD COBHAM,—OB: 1558.

From the Drawing by Holbein.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
DURING THE YEAR
1899.

PART II.—PAPERS, ETC.

Brook,
OF SOMERSET AND DEVON; BARONS OF COBHAM, IN KENT.

BY W. H. HAMILTON ROGERS, F.S.A.

Part II.

THE additional notes comprised in this *Paper*, allusive to the Brook family, are offered as supplementary to the account found in the preceding volume of Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. *Proceedings*, and are designed to render the notice of their history to some extent more complete.

Their Early History.

THE following interesting confirmatory particulars relating to Brook, Cobham, Beauchamp, &c., are extracted from *Coll. Topog. et Geneal.*, vol. vii, pp. 320-354, therein stated to be taken from "*Charters, &c., in the hand-writing of Robert Glover, Somerset Herald, in a volume of the library of the College of*

Arms, marked Philipot, E. J., and were derived from the muniment room at Cobham Hall," about 1574. These refer to the early possession of Olditch :—

"Briannus de Gomz (Goritz) D'n's de Kingesdon, dedit, &c., Henrico de la Broke et Nicholea uxor suæ, &c., s. d. (Seal) 'S. BRIANI DE GOMZ.' (Arms) *vaire, a bend lozengy.*

Henricus de Brok, de Holdyche, 3 Regis Edw.

Elizabeth quæ fuit uxor Henrici de Broke, 7 Edw'd. III—1334.

Henricus Broke, relaxavit Thomæ Broke nepoti suo et Constantia uxoris ejus, &c. Dat. ap. Holdyche, 8 Edw. III—1335.

Thomas Broke, et Constantia uxor ejus, 9 Edw. III—1336.

Thomas de Broke, tenuit maner, de Broke juxta Yilchester in Com. Som'st. 14 Edw. III—1341."

The following to Henry de Cobham, the marriage of his son to Joan Beauchamp, his burial at Stoke-sub-Hamdon, and inventory of his goods. It will be observed the date of his son's attendance at the funeral is of a vague nature, stated as "*anno 9 Edw. regis*"; if of Edwd. II, 1316; if of Edwd. III, 1336; and this would be nearer the correct date, for he died in 1339, which agrees with the year the inventory was taken and exhibited.

"Johannes de Cobham miles quæritur versus Dn'm Thomam fratrem suum, in qua querela dicit quod cum Joh'es de Cobham leur sage auncestor, le quel Dieu assoile, perquisiuit manerium de Chessebury, quod descendit D'no Henrico patri eorum utpote hæridi per successionem: Et postea idem H. accepit D'no Joh'e de Beauchamp pro nuptiis dicti D'ne Johannis filii sui 400 lib. sub eo conditione quod nunquam diahereditaret d'cm J. filium suum. Id non obstante dict. D'ns Thomas ita rem tractavit cum eorum patre anted'co q'd ille feoffavit d'cm Thom. de advocacione eccl'ie pred'ce, &c. Tandem convenit inter eos in præsentia Reginaldi de Cobham, Prioris Roffens', et aliis.

Henricus de Cobham, miles, d'n's de Chissebury, 6 Edward II—1313.

Joh'es de Cobham dedit D'ne Matilde de Columbariis et Henrico de Cobham filio suo maneria de Chissebyri, &c., s. d. (seal) arms of Cobham, *dimidiated, impaling a bend* (Columbers).

Henricus de Cobham, miles, D'ns de Cobham, dedit Joh'i de C. filio suo et Johanne uxori ejus, pro sexcentis marcis argenti ille præ manibus solutis, manerium suum de Henton in Com. Wiltes, cum omn' pertin', &c. Dat. Londini die Lunæ in f. b. Mariæ Mag. 8 Edward II—1315.

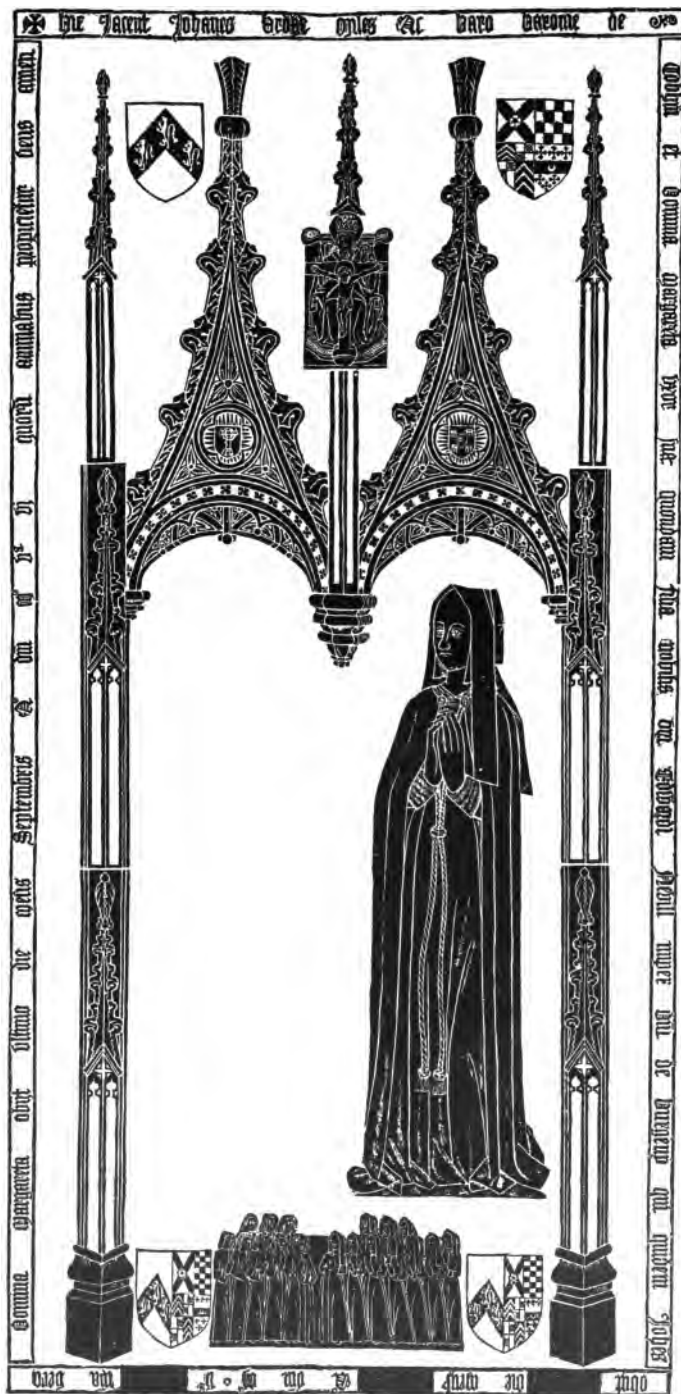
Joh'es de Cobham, miles, filius D'ni H. de Cobham, salut in D'no. nov't univ. vestra me attornasse, &c., Will'm de Blanford ad capiend. (*preceding grant*). Dat. ap. Stoke-subtus-Hamedon die Martis p'x. p. f. b. Marg. 8 Edward II—1315.

D'ns Johe's de Cobham celebravit funus D'ni Henrici de Cobham apud Stoke in Com. (Somerset) anno 9 Edw. regis.

Henricus de Cobham sepelitur apud Merston Stoke in Com. Somerset, et Joh'es de Cobham filius ejus aderat apud funus suum, cujus quidam Joh'is expensa itinerando et redundo ad'co funere adhuc extant.

Inventiarum omniu' bonor' D'ni Henrici de Cobham, mil. defuncti die Assumpc'onis beatæ Mariæ virginis anno D'ni millo cccmo xxxix. Henricus iste habuit duos filios Joh'em et Thomam, milites, qui contraversar'rit pro testamento patris sui. (1339).





(JOHN BROOK, LORD COBHAM), AND MARGARET NEVILL HIS WIFE.

COBHAM CHURCH.



THOMAS BROOK, LORD COBHAM, AND DOROTHY HAYDON HIS WIFE.

COBHAM CHURCH

Inventiarum omnium bonorum D'ni Hen. de C. mil. defuncti die Assumpt. b. Mariæ virg. 1339, exhibit Ep'o Roffensi per Thomam C. mil."

These relate to John de Cobham, his marriage contract with Margaret Courtenay, and receipt for the payment, "*pro le sojourn*" with her father subsequently.

"Joh'es Cobham dat terras Johi filio suo et Margaretæ filie Hugonis Comitis Devon, 5 Edward III—1332. (Seal) *on a spread eagle two shields, 1 vair* (for Joan Beauchamp), 2 Cobham, *with label*.

Indentura facta 6 Edward III—1333, inter D'm'n Hugonem de Courtenay, Comitem Devon et Joh'em de Cobham testatur quod Joh'es filius D'ni Joh'is accipiet in uxorem Margaret filiam dicti Comites, &c.

Hugo de Courtenay Comes Devonie fatetur se recipisse de Johanne de Cobham mil. filio D'ni Johis de C. de Kent, militis, 5 libras sex solidos pro le sojourn de Margarete de Courtenay filia sua, 29 Edward III—1356.

Joh'es, D'nus de Cobham, habuit licent. fundare Collegium de Cobham—1362."

These exhibit the marriage contract of Thomas Brook, and Johanna Braybroke, Lady of Cobham, with the seals of Cobham and Brook; and a deed relating to the widowed Lady Johanna Brook, with her four sons (including Michael Brook), concerning Kingeston, one of the oldest of their possessions, and dated at Olditch. The seal to this document is specially interesting as displaying Lady Johanna's arms, *Ermine, on a chief gules, three bucks head's affronté or*, impaled with Brook, her second husband.

These arms are now assigned to *Hanning*; and their appearance here makes it questionable if she did not belong to a family so named, and not *Hannap*, or *Hanham*, unless all three are variants of the same name. The arms at present assigned to *Hanham* are altogether different.

"Indentura facta inter Sir John Oldcastell mil. D'n'm de Cobham et Johannem uxoris ejus ex una parte, et Thomam Broke, militem ex altera. Testatur quod Thomas filius et heres d'ci Thome Brooke accipet in uxorem Johannam filium d'ce Johannæ uxoris d'ci Joh'is O. D'ni de C. infra datum presentium ad festum Pentecostes proxime venturum si Deus illis vitam concedit, &c. Dat. 20 Feb. 11 Henry IV—1410. (Seal) "SIGILLUM JOHANNIS OLDCASTELL D'NI DE COBHAM." (Arms) quarterly, one and four, *a castle*, two and three Cobham, (supporters) *two lions sejant affrontée*, (crest) *on a helmet and wreath, a Saracen's head wearing a cap*.

Joanna Brooke relicta Thome Brooke mil. defuncti fecit attornatus ad deliberandum Ric'o Chedder, Thome Brooke, Thome Chedder et Michaeli Brooke filiis meis seisinam in maner' de Kingeston. Dat. apud Holdych 5 Henry V, 1418. (Seal) Brook, impaling, *Ermine, on a chief, three bucks' heads caboshed*.

Michael Brooke, fil. Thomæ et Johannæ B., 11 Henry V, 1424.

Deed dated 12 Henry VI, 1434. (Seal 1) 'SIGILLUM THOMÆ BROOKE MILITIS,' (arms) *on a chevron a lion rampant* (Brook), (supporters) *two lions*, (crest) *on a helmet and wreath a spread wing*. (Seal 2) 'SIGILLUM JOHANNÆ BROKE,' (arms) Brook, impaling, *Ermine, on a chief, three stags' heads caboshed*."

These notes to Johanna, Lady of Cobham, and Hemenhale and Hawberk, two of her husbands, and Hawberk's first wife.

"Rob'ts Asheley et alii demiserunt maner. de Creshale in Com. Essex. Joh'e quondam uxori Rob'ti Hemenhale mil. filiz Joh'is de la Poole, militis, 19 Ric. II, 1396. (Seal) 'SIGILLUM D'NE JOHANNÆ HEMENHALE.' (Arms) *on a fess between two chevrons, three escallops* (Hemenhale) impaling, *two bars wavy* (De la Pole).

Nicholaus Hawberk, miles, et Domina Matilda uxor ejus, 1 Henry IV, 1399.

Nich. Hauberk, miles, dedit Hugoni Lutterell, &c., omnia bona et catella sua ubicumque fuerint inventa exceptus centum sol. argenti quod sibi reseravit. Dat. apud Couling, 6 Oct., 9 Henry IV, 1407.

Hugo Lutterell, miles, &c., confirmaverunt D'næ Johannæ, D'næ de Cobham, omnia bona et catella quæ habuerunt ex dono Nicholai Hauberk, militis, 9 Henry IV, 1407. (Seal) 'SIGILLUM NICHOLAUS HAUBERK, MILITIS.' (Arms) *checky, a chief per fess nebulée*."

And these refer to John de Cobham, of Blackborough, Devon.

"Joh'es Cobham de Blakeburgh, et Katerina uxor ejus 51 Edward III, 1378.

20 Richard II, 1396. *Cornub.* Johannes Cobham de Blakeburgh, miles, obiit seisis de reversione manerii de Hilton cum pertin. et de redditu. 10 solid. annuatim Castro de Launceston solvendo. Quod quidem manerium tenetur de Rege in cap. ut de Castro suo prædicto et de Ducato Cornubiæ per serv. militare et per redd. 10 solid. per annum. Quodque Elizabetha soror dicti Johannis est hæres. (Seal) 'SIGILLUM JOHANNIS DE COBEHAM.' (Arms) *on a chevron, three spread eagles, in dexter chief point an estoile*."

These arms of Cobham of Blackborough were quartered by Hungerford, as descending from Elizabeth, daughter of the first John Cobham of that place, who married Sir Hugh Peverell. They are found on the large escutcheon of the splendid monument with their effigies, in the Chapel at Farleigh Castle, of Sir Edward Hungerford, ob. 1648, and his wife Margaret Halliday, ob. 1672; and are, apparently, the only trace of remembrance of the Cobhams of Blackborough existing.

Thomas Chedder

AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

IN Canon Jackson's *Guide to Farleigh Hungerford 1879*, the following "courteous and gentle epistle, &c.," appears, quoted

from the fine *Cartulary of the Hungerford Family*, in the possession of the Rt. Hon. Henry Hobhouse, of Hadspen, near Bruton. An indenture by which Thomas Chedder does homage to Walter, Lord Hungerford (ob. 1449) for his land at Littleton near Wellow; 21 Henry VI, 1441.

"This Indenture made the Fest of Seinte Cutberd the Bisshope, the yeare of the Reigning of King Harry the Sext after the Conqueste the 19th, Witnesseth that Thomas Chedder, Scirer (*Esquire*) hath done Homage to Walter Lord Hungerforde for the Londes and Tenements which the saide Thomas holdeth of the saide Lord in Littleton. In witness whereof to the parties of this Indenture as well the saide Lorde as the forsaide Thomas interchangeably have set their seales the day and the yere above written."

"To the worshipfull noble and my ryght gode and gracious Lord the Lorde Hungerford.

Worshipful Noble and my right gode Lord. I recomaunde me unto your ryght gode Lordeshippe, besechyng the same to have me excused of that I com not to your Presence atte this Tyme for the Doying of myne Homage: for trule, my Lord, God hath visited me with such Infirmitie that I may not ryde without right grete Perell of mine Hele (*health*) as I hope my Brother Fortescue which hath sene myne Infirmitie will pleyne enforme your gode Lordeshippe: Wherefore I sende unto you by the Berer hereof an Endenture ensealed with the Seale of myne Armys by which I have done unto you Homage.

Worshipfull noble and my ryght gode Lord, I beseech Almighty God alwey your gode and gracious spede.

Write on the Fest of Seinte Cutberde the Bisshope;—

THOMAS CHEDDER."

Thomas Chedder had no brother named Fortescue, and the Canon surmises it may have been the L.C.J. of the King's Bench, Sir John Fortescue, "who was connected with the neighbourhood of Wellow and Farley, by marriage (according to Lord Clermont) with the heiress of John James, of Norton St. Philip's." Thomas Chedder, then in ill health, appears to have died the following year, 1442-3.

Sir Edward Grey—Viscount L'Isle. He carried the Rod with the Dove at the coronation of Richard III—7th July, 1483. His first wife, Elizabeth Talbot, granddaughter of Thomas Chedder, died 8th September, 1487, and was buried at Astley, Warwickshire; he died 17th July, 1492, and bequeathed his body to be buried in the new chapel of Our Lady, begun by himself to be built in the College of Astley, where the body of his late wife lay interred. The interesting pair of effigies in Astley Church may represent them; the knight, in full armour, with collar of S.S.; the lady, with long

flowing hair, coronet, and wearing the rare Yorkist collar of Suns and Roses. Another effigy of a lady, with pedimental head-dress, in the same church, is presumed to represent her niece, Cicely Bonville, of Shute.

The Viscount married secondly, Jane, widow of Sir Robert Drope, citizen and draper, Lord Mayor of London, 1474-5, knighted the same year, and who died about 1485. She survived her second husband and died 1499-1500. Sir Robert Drope and his widow, the Viscountess, were munificently inclined in founding some substantial charities, and both were buried in the church of St. Michael, Cornhill, "on the north side of the choir under a fair tomb of grey marble," but, continues Stow, "notwithstanding their liberality to that church and parish, their tomb is pulled down, and no monument remaineth of them."

Sir John Grey—Viscount L'Isle, son of the preceding, was created Knight of the Bath, 18th February, 1503, "being one of the Knightes of the Sword dubbed at the creation of Prince Henry." He died 9th February, 1504; his widow, Muriel Howard, remarried Sir Thomas Knyvett, K.B., of Buckenham, Norfolk, ob. 1512; she died about the same date, and was buried in the Friars' Church, Greenwich.

Arthur Plantagenet—Viscount L'Isle. He married Elizabeth Grey-Dudley, 12th November, 1511; knighted 14th October, 1513; Sheriff of Hants, 1513-14; Knight of the Garter, 23rd April, 1524; Vice-Admiral of England, 1525; First Commissioner to Francis I, King of France with the Garter, invested at Paris, 10th November, 1527; Governor of Calais, 1533-40; Pantler at the coronation of Anne Boleyn, 1st June, 1533; Privy Councillor, 1540. His committal to the Tower, in April 1540, was owing to a suspicion that he had a design of betraying Calais to the French, and when Henry VIII, being convinced of his innocence, ordered his release, he is said to "have died of joy" thereat, on 3rd March, 1541-2, and was buried there. His wife appears to have died the preceding year.

John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland. He was the eldest son of Elizabeth Grey-Dudley, by her first husband, and heir to the possessorship of Kingston L'Isle, and the title, as specified on the patent, dependant thereon. But before his mother's death, which occurred about 1540, during her lifetime, on the 27th March, 1538, he disposed of the reversion of the manor and estate of Kingston L'Isle, to William Hyde, whereby on her death, when he became heir to the grantees of the Barony of L'Isle, he failed to comply with the conditions of the grant, and the title so created became extinct. He was executed on Tower Hill, 22nd August, 1553.

The Brook Memorials

IN COBHAM CHURCH, ETC.

ALTHOUGH there were seven descents of Brook after their migration to Cobham, of whom six were summoned as Barons, only three memorials exist to them in the church there, wherein all, except the last—Henry Brook—were interred.

The oldest of these is the brass to Sir John Brook, fifth Baron of Cobham (grandson of Sir Thomas Brook, of Olditch, who married Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham), and his wife, Margaret Nevill, which lies in the pavement of the chancel. He married first *Eleanor*, daughter of — *Anstell* or *Anstie*, of Suffolk, who left no issue, and secondly *Margaret*, daughter of Edward Nevill, Lord Abergavenny, youngest son of *Ralph*, first *Earl of Westmoreland*, by his wife *Elizabeth*, daughter and sole heir of Richard Beauchamp, Lord Bergavenny, created Earl of Worcester in 1420, who married Isabel Despencer, sister and sole heir of Richard, eighth Baron Despencer and Baron Burghersh. This descent explains the impalement of the shields on the brass, namely Cobham, impaling Nevill, Warren, Clare, Despencer, and Beauchamp, *with a crescent for difference*. It is curious to note that the

arms of Brook, proper, are not included. By her he appears to have had eighteen children, as depicted at the foot of the brass, eight sons, and ten daughters. The inscription as it is now found reads thus:—

Hic Jacent Johanes Broke Miles Ac Baro Baronie de Cobh'm et Domina Margareta vxor sua quondam filia nobilis viri Edwardi Nevill nuper D'ni de Burg'eny qui quidem Joh'es obiit die mens' A'o D'ni M^o v^c ip'a vero Domina Margareta obiit vltimo die me'sis Septembris A'o d'ni M^o v^c vj quoru' animabus propicietur Deus: amen.

Only the figure of the lady now remains, but that of Sir John was in existence in 1597. The costume of Lady Margaret is very simple, gown with full sleeves guarded with fur, mantle with cordon, and pedimental head-dress. John Brook, Lord Cobham, died 9th March, 1511-12, but the date was never filled in upon the brass. Affixed to the central pinnacle is a square panel, whereon is a representation of the Trinity, the Father seated, with triple crown, and right hand raised in benediction, supports the Saviour on the Cross, which rests upon the orb of the Earth, and on the left arm of the cross is the Holy Spirit, sitting as a Dove, with partially extended wings; in the central compartments of the canopies are shields, on one the instruments of the Passion, and on the other the Five Wounds.

In Couling (*hodie* Cooling) Church, Kent, the parish in which Couling Castle, the original seat of the Cobhams, is situate, is the brass of Faith Brook, one of the ten daughters of the aforesaid John Brook, Lord Cobham (ob. 1512) which lies in the floor of the nave. The figure is of small size, and clad in pedimental head-dress, gown with fur cuffs, and ornamental girdle. Below is the inscription:—

Pray for ye soule of Feyth Brooke late ye dowgt'r of Syr John Brook lord of Cobh'm whiche Feyth decessed the xxj day of Septe'b'r ye ye'r of o'r lord m.vcviij o' whose soule J'h'u have m'cy.



FAITH BROOK.—COWLING CHURCH.

KENT.



HIC IACET SEPVLTA DOMINA IOHANNA
BROOKE VXOR ROBERTI BROOKE MILITIS
QVAE FVIT PRIMOGENITA FILIARVM HVMFRIDI
WELD MILITIS VIXIT ANNOS TRIGINTA
OCTO ET OBIT XXIJ DIE MAIJ AÑ DÑI.1618

JOHANNA WELD, FIRST WIFE OF SIR ROBERT BROOK.

YOXFORD CHURCH, SUFFOLK.



THOMAS BROOK, LORD COBHAM, AND DOROTHY HAYDON HIS WIFE.

COBHAM CHURCH.

The second memorial in Cobham Church is also a brass (the last of the series), in the pavement of the chancel, and commemorates Sir Thomas Brook (eldest son of Sir John), sixth Baron of Cobham, his first wife, Dorothy Haydon, and their thirteen children. He died 19th July, 1529.

The inscription is :—

Orate pro anima Thome Brooke militis d'ni de Cobham ac Consanguini et heredis Richardi Beauchampe militis qui quidem Thomas cepit in uxorem Dorothea' filiam Henrici Haydon militis et habuerunt exitu' inter eos septe' filios et sex filias et p'd'ca Dorothea obiit et p'd'cus Thomas Cepit in uxorem Dorothea' Sowthwell vidua' que obiit sine exitu et postea Cepit in vxore' Elizabetha' Hart et habuerunt nullu' exitu' inter eos qui quide' Thomas obiit xix die Julij A'o d'ni MCCCCxxixti.

He is in the elaborate armour of the period, with skirt of mail, and broad-toed sabbatons, a chain with dependant cross suspended from the neck, an ornament found on many effigies about this date. The lady wears the pedimental head-dress of that era. The children are in two groups below. Arms, four shields at the corners, each charged alike with Brook, Cobham, Braybroke, and De la Pole—*Azure, a fess between three leopards heads or, an annulet for difference*, being the bearings assigned to the younger branch of De la Pole; those on the brass of Lady Johanna Braybroke, as also on her mother's at Chrishall, being the older blazon of the main stem, *azure, two bars nebulée or*; in the porch at Chrishall *both* shields occur separately, dexter being the *fess and leopards heads*, sinister the *bars nebulée*. A Sir Henry Heydon, was made K.B. at the coronation of Henry VII, 30th October, 1485, his arms, *Quarterly, argent and gules, a cross engrailed counterchanged*. Lysons (*Environs of London*) in describing West-Wickham, Kent, says :—

“The manor house, which stands near the church, was built by Sir Henry Heydon, temp: Henry VII. In a window of the hall are the arms of Heydon and his wife, Anne, daughter of Sir Godfrey Bulleyne. The parish church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, was re-built by Sir Henry Heydon temp: Henry VII. In the east window is the representation of a skeleton in kneeling

posture, with label issuing from its mouth inscribed, '*Ne reminiscaris Domine delicta mea aut par . . .*' intended for that of Sir Henry Heydon, Founder of the church, as appears by the helmet and his shield of arms lying at its feet."

Of his thirteen children, *John*, the eldest son, died in his father's lifetime; *George*, who became his heir, *Thomas*, *William*, and *Edward*. Of his daughters, *Margaret* was married to Sir John Fogge, of Repton; *Faith*, to William Ockenden, Gentleman Porter of Calais; and *Elizabeth*, to Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington, and afterward to Sir Edward Warner.

The third and last memorial to the Brooks, in Cobham Church, is the splendid tomb and recumbent effigies of George Brook, seventh Baron Cobham, and his wife Anne, daughter of Edmond Lord Bray, with their fourteen children kneeling below. From Mr. Waller's excellent description we extract the following:—

"It stands in the midst of the chancel, and before its restoration exhibited terrible signs of past neglect and dilapidation. It is of rare beauty, both of design and execution, and consists of a large altar tomb constructed of alabaster, with the exception of the table, which is of black marble. Upon this rests the effigies of the deceased, and it is partly sustained by sixteen fluted columns of the Ionic order. Kneeling figures of the fourteen children are ranged round the sides on a supplemental table below. The four daughters are at each end, the sons on each side, placed according to their priority of birth alternately, first on the right or south side, then on the left or north side of the tomb. The effigies are finely executed, and are most likely of Flemish workmanship, being in character very similar to that of Count Lalaing, at Hogstraaten, in Belgium. This nobleman, who also figured in the political arena of his time, died in 1558, and it cannot be doubted but that the same sculptor executed the monuments of both.

Lord Cobham is represented in armour surmounted by a tabard, emblazoned with his arms, through a slit of which, on the right side, appears the lance rest. Over this he wears the mantle with cordon, collar, and hood of the Order of the Garter, and the garter with the motto is on his right knee. His hands are clasped in prayer, and his head rests on an embroidered cushion. At his feet is the heraldic *antelope*, or '*gazelle*,' resembling, however, a young ram couchant. The figure of Lady Anne wears over the gown a tabard of her arms, Bray and quarterings, and over this a mantle of estate with the arms and quarterings of Brook, her head rests on an embroidered cushion, and she wears the French hood. Her hands are joined in prayer, and at her feet is the '*gatyger*,' as a *lion couchant winged*, the wings heraldically emblazoned '*vairé*.' It is a cognizance of the house of Bray. On a semi-circular projection of the west end of the table lies a helmet, surmounted by the antient crest of the Cobham family, the *Moor*, or *Saracen's head*, and the same is seen upon a helmet on the north wall, possibly that of Lord George.

At the east end of the tomb are two escutcheons. The upper one is Brook quartering Cobham, De la Pole, Peverill, Braybroke, and St. Amand quartering Bray, thus—Troughton, Bray, Hallighwell, Norbury, Boteler, Sudeley.

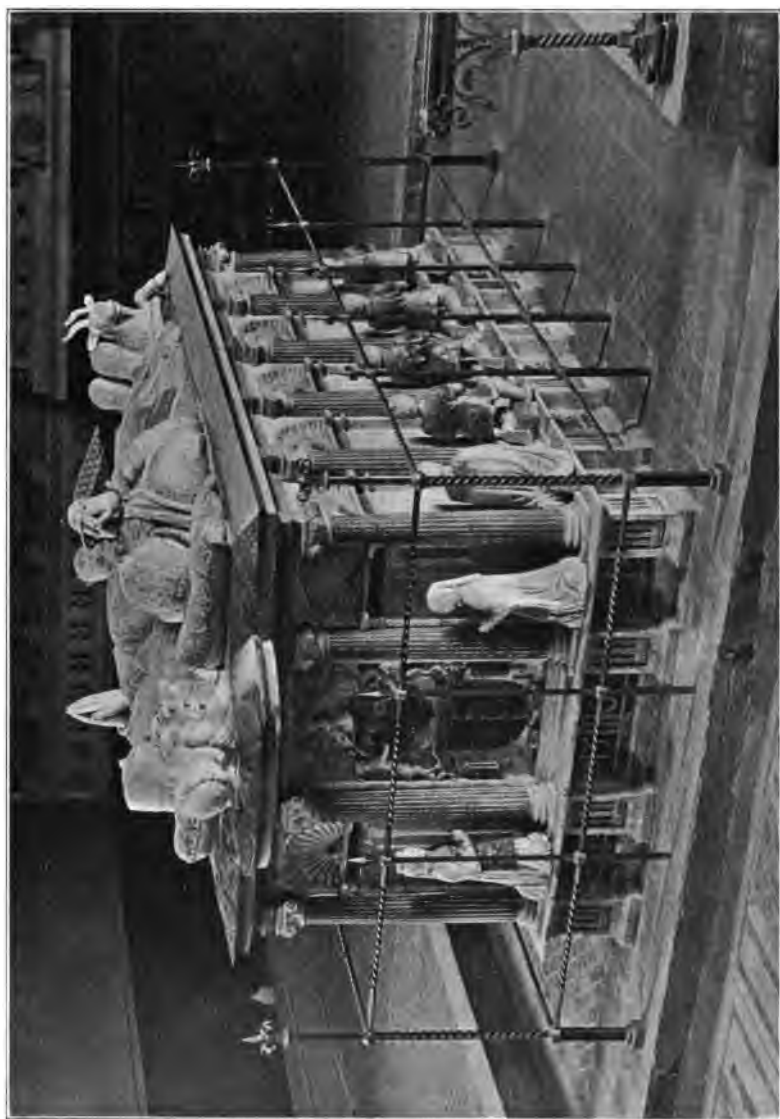


GEORGE BROOK, LORD COBHAM, AND ANNE BRAY HIS WIFE.
COBHAM CHURCH.

1

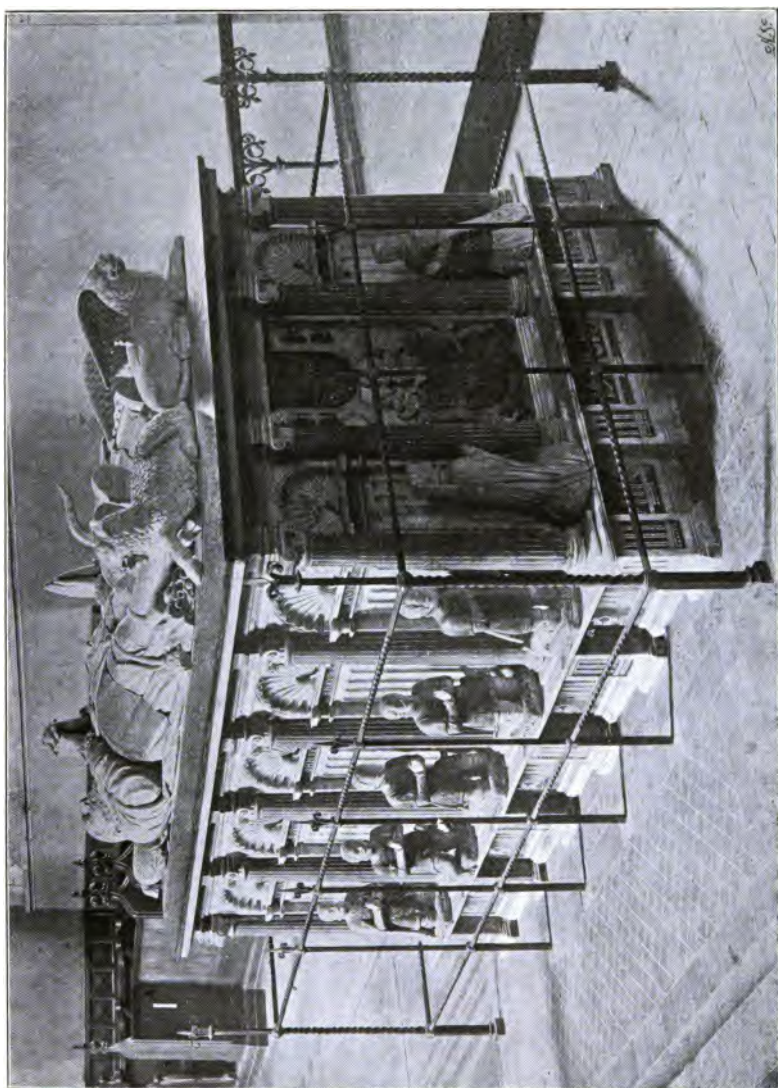
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GEORGE BROOK, LORD COBHAM, AND ANNE BRAY HIS WIFE.

COBHAM CHURCH.



GEORGE BROOK, LORD COBHAM, AND ANNE BRAY HIS WIFE.
COBHAM CHURCH.

Montfort, Croyser, and Dabernon. Beneath this is a large escutcheon, having as supporters, dexter, an antelope, sinister a griffin; with helmet and crest of a lion passant crowned, a cognizance of Brook; below, the motto, '*Je me fie en Dieu.*' In this escutcheon, the quarterings of Brook impale those of Bray, as above.

At the west end there are also two escutcheons, the upper Brook as before, with the quarterings of Bray on an escutcheon of pretence. It is surrounded by the Garter. Beneath is a large escutcheon of twenty-seven coats of arms, consisting of the quarterings of Brook and Bray, impaling the arms and quarterings of Newton, the latter representing the second wife of Sir William Brook, son and heir of Lord Cobham, by whom this monument was erected. It has supporters, and the motto as before, the crest being that of the Moor's head." (These bearings of Newton have been before described).

The children, in varied costumes, with tabards emblazoned with their parents' arms, impaling their own alliances, kneel around, and have their names superscribed above them. They are carefully described by Mr. Waller, who continues:—

"The inscription, in Latin, very long, and expressed in capital letters, is well carried on the bevelled edge of the marble table on which the effigies lie, and is as follows:—

Honoratissimus et clarissimus vir Georgivs Brokvs fuit dominvs Cobhamvs ex oppidi Cobami possessione cognominatus et idem laudatissimus aliquot annis Calesi prefectus in illustrissimv Collegium cooptatus equitvm Divi Georgii nec solum hanc prestantissimam habvit honorvm et familie comendationem sed etiam natvra fuit optima et animo omni genere laudis ornatissimo dvx fuit in bello prestantissimus et sapientissimus in pace consiliarius principibvs in quorvm temporibvs vizit egregie probatus Cantianis suis inter quos habitavit eximie charvs deniqz toti reipublice propter honorv splendorem et virtutv notissimus et dilectissimus et huc o'ia fverunt in illo illustriora quoniam et professionem evangelii suscepit et defensionem ac eandem ad extremv vsqz spiritvm conservavit. Iste nobilissimus vir constantissimus Dei servvs et ornatissimv patrie membrv cvm ad maturam senectutem pervenisset annv agens sexagesimv secundv et febris ardoribvs conflagrans tertio calendas octobris est mortvvs anno 1558 cuivs discessv liberi quos post se multos et imprimis laudatos reliquit et amici ac necessarii tota deniqz respublica magnv et ivsto dolorem acceperunt Gvtilihmvs autem Brokvs eques appellatus ex antique familie cognominac'oe d'ns Cobhamvs filivs Georgii patris et haeres benevolentissimus hoc monvmentv memorie Georgii patris svi charissimi dedicavit anno 1561, et Elizabethæ Reginae tertio.

Patre fuit domino felix dominoqz marito alter erat Braivs Cobhamvs alter erat Anna fuit frvji fuit et prosperima mater pauperibvs larga præbvit anna manv. Nil erat hac melivs nil fortunativs una. Donec erat charo charior illa viro Vltimvs hunc annvs Marie cv funere meruit illa pari fato mense novembre ruit Sic quos vita dvos concordēs semper habebat extinctos eadem nv'c quovqz busta tenent."

As mentioned in the inscription, the tomb was erected by his son and heir, William Brook, eighth Lord Cobham, to the memory of his parents, 3 Elizabeth, 1561. Lord Cobham made his will 31st March, 1552, and died 29th September, 1558, aged sixty-one.

The sons of George Brook.

LORD COBHAM.

George Brook, his fifth son (previously noticed), married *Christiana Duke*, of Otterton, Devon, and, apparently, three of their sons, *Peter*, *Duke*, and *Charles*, were of Templecombe, Somerset, where they held influential positions as Lords of the Manor. *Peter*, his administration was granted to his brother *Charles*, 12th July, 1606. *Duke*, his nuncupative will, 27th May, 1606, also to his brother *Charles*, 12th July, 1606, *Margaret*, his widow and executrix, renouncing. These brothers appear to have died in date very near each other, and, in a worldly sense, unprepared. *Charles*, the survivor, will dated 4th April, proved 7th May, 1610, mentions his "kinsman," *Richard Duke*, of Otterton, Esq. (his cousin's son, who married *Margaret*, daughter of *Sir Arthur Bassett*, of *Umberleigh*, ob. 1641), with his sister, *Elizabeth* (wife of *Humphrey Walrond*, of *Ottery St. Mary*), and four hundred pounds for his funeral. There are no memorials to them in the church, but interesting evidence of these descendants of Brook is found in the *Register* at Templecombe :—

"1587.—*Duke Brooke*, the sonne and heir of *Duke Brooke*, Esqr., was buryed xiiij October.

1606.—*Duke Brooke*, Esquire, Lord of this Manor, departed this life at London, the 27th day of Maye, and was buryed at Cobham, in Kent, on xth June.

1610.—*Charles Brooke*, Esquire, Lord of this Manor, dyed and was buryed 5th Aprill.

These three brothers were cousins to the unfortunate *Henry Brook*, last Lord Cobham, and it appears that after his attainder, *Duke Brook*, who died in 1606, must have purchased in May, 1605, from *King James*, for £10,669, a considerable interest in the confiscated estate, and this accounts for his burial at Cobham. He left the residue of his property to his wife *Margaret*. From the large sum then paid, they appear to have possessed considerable wealth, as evidenced also by the amount ordered to be set aside by *Charles*, the surviving brother, for his funeral.



JOHN BROOK, NEWINGTON CHURCH, KENT.



SIR ROBERT BROOK AND ELIZABETH CULPEPER, HIS SECOND WIFE.

YOXFORD CHURCH.

Thomas Brook, fourth son, his tabard on his father's tomb displays Brook, with a *fleur-de-lys argent for difference*, impaling, quarterly, 1 and 4, *sable, three stags' heads caboshed argent*; 2 and 3, *a chevron gules between three cross-crosslets, sable, a crescent or, for difference* (CAVENDISH). (Waller). Is this the Thomas Brook mentioned by Collins (as being the fourth son of Thomas, Lord Cobham) as "of Wiltshire," who married Katherine, daughter of Sir William Cavendish, ob. 1562 (the ancestor of the Dukes of Devonshire) by his first wife Anne, daughter of Edmund Bostock, of Wallcroft, Cheshire?

He appears to have been a man of infamous character, the "scapegrace of the family," and became a buccaneer of the worst class, with revolting cruelty, an instance of which, almost unparalleled in atrocity, is graphically described by Froude.

John Brook was his third son, born 22nd April, 1534, died 25th September, 1594, and was buried in Newington Church, Kent. He served with distinction as a soldier in the Low Countries. His monument is on the south wall of the chancel, and a very fine one. Of alabaster, Ionic columns, handsome design, and richly ornamented. He is represented kneeling before a prayer-desk with book on it, habited in armour, with great character in the features, all being of excellent workmanship. The inscription records:—

"*Hic situs est Johannes Brook, armiger, illustrissimi herois Domini Georgii Brook, Domini de Cobham, filius tertius: qui in pace apud suos optima fama vixit, in praelio Belgico factus peditum equitumq' Anglicorum archistrategus contra Hispanos fortiter faeliciterque pugnavit: tandem in patria vita pie defunctus placide in D'no obdormivit vicesimo quinto die mensis Septembris A'no D'ni 1594.*

Gvilielmus et Georgius Brook fratres, patrvo svo charissimo monumentum posuerunt."

Which may be read:—

"*Here is interred John Brook, Esquire, third son of the most illustrious and distinguished Lord George Brook, Lord of Cobham, who in peace lived among his people with the highest reputation; and in the war in the Netherlands, was made leader both of the English infantry and cavalry against the Spaniards, he fought bravely and successfully: at length in his native land he ended his pious life, and peacefully fell asleep in the Lord, 25th September, 1594.*

The brothers, William and George Brook, have set up this monument to their dearest uncle."

Arms—Brook, *with annulet*, and eleven other quarterings, Cobham, Braybroke, De la Pole, Peverel, Braye, Troughton, Norbury, Boteler, &c. Helmet with crest, *on a cap of maintenance a spread wing*.

He married *Alice*, daughter of *Edward Cobbe, Esq.*, and widow of Sir John Norton, of Northwood, Kent. She is also buried in the chancel, and on the floor is her brass memorial. She is represented in embroidered petticoat, gown with dependant sleeves, ruff, and close cap, and has her hand on the head of the eldest of her two sons, who are standing by her side. Below is the inscription :—

*"The Lady Norton once she was, whose corpes is couched here,
John Cobham's late and loving wyfe, of the Country of Kent, Esqr.,
Who in her lyfe did well deserue to have a future fame,
For that she was vnto the poore, a good and gratius dame,
With charitie and modesty, and all the gyfte of grace,
Acquainted so she was to good to tarry in thys place.
She died ye 9 daye of September, 1580."*

John Brook appears on his father's tomb, his tabard emblazoned with Brook, impaling, *Argent, a chevron between three cocks gules*. (COBBE).

Henry Brook, seventh son, was, says Mr. Waller :—

"perhaps the most distinguished of them all, born 5th February, 1537, a good part of his life was employed in diplomacy at various Courts as Ambassador, but specially at those of France and Spain, where he proved himself an able public servant. He was knighted by the Queen at the festivities of Kenilworth in July, 1575, was Knight of the Shire for Kent 1586-9, married *Anne*, daughter of Sir Henry Sutton, Knt., and widow of Sir Walter Haddon, principal Master of the Court of Requests, ob. 1571-2."

He died in 1591, was described of Sutton-at-Hone, near Dartford, Kent, but no memorial or reference to him is found in the church there. His son was the Sir John Brook, to whom the peerage was restored in 1645. In the *Register*, of East Barnet (Lysons) is this entry :—

"George Brookes *alias* Cobham, the son of Sir John Brookes *alias* Cobham, Knt., and Frances, his wife, born October 11th, and baptized 15th same month, 1636."

This was Sir John's only son by his second wife ; he predeceased his father, at whose death the revived title became extinct.



The lady Norton once she was whole corpse is couched here
 John Cobbe's late and lovinge wyfe of the Countrey of Kent Esqr
 who in her lyfe did well deserve to have a future fame
 for that she was unto the poore a good and gracious dame
 with Charitie and modesty and all the gyfte of grace
 Acquainted in she was to good to tarry in this place.

*
 She died the 9 daye of September 1580

ALICE COBBE, LADY NORTON, WIFE OF JOHN BROOK.

NEWINGTON CHURCH, KENT.



HERE LYETH BVRIED THE BODY OF MARY BROOKE,
ALIAS COBBVM WIDDO VNTO EDWARD BROOKE,
ALIAS COBBVM ESQVIER, WHOE DEPARTED THIS
LIFE THE XXijTH DAYE OF IvlY AN^O DN̄. 1600,

MARY, WIFE OF EDWARD BROOK.

NEWINGTON CHURCH, KENT.

Edward Brook was, apparently, the tenth and youngest of his sons. His widow, *Mary Brook*, is also buried in Newington Church. Who she was does not appear; no impalement appears on his tabard on his father's tomb, and he was probably unmarried at the time of its erection. The brass to her memory represents her in plain costume, with ruff and close cap. The inscription records:—

"Here lyeth buried the body of Mary Brooke alias Cobbum, widdo vnto Edward Brooke alias Cobbum, Esquier, whoe departed this life the xxijth daye of July, A'no D'ni, 1600."

Brook

OF YOXFORD AND ATHELINGTON, SUFFOLK.

Sir Robert Brook, of Cockfield Hall, Yoxford, was, according to Cotman (*Suffolk Brasses*),

"the son of Robert Brooke, Citizen and Alderman of London, descending from a younger branch of the noble family of Cobham. He purchased the estate of the Hoptons at Yoxford and Blytheburgh, about 44 Elizabeth, 1602, built the present Cockfield Hall, 1613; Sheriff of Suffolk, 1614; M.P. for Dunwich, 1623-5-8."

He married first, *Johanna*, daughter of *Sir Humphrey Weld*, knighted 26th July, 1603, Lord Mayor of London, 1608, died 29th November, 1610, by his wife Frances, daughter and heir of Nicholas Wheler, of Hollwell, in Hatfield, Co. Hertford. His grandson Humphrey, purchased of James, Lord Howard de Walden, and Earl of Suffolk, the Lullworth and other estates in Dorset, 20th January, 1641. He married Clara, daughter of Thomas, Lord Arundell of Wardour, died about 1685, and was buried in Henry VII Chapel, in Westminster Abbey. (Hutchins).

She is buried in Yoxford Church, where there is her brass; she is portrayed in Elizabethan costume, with large and elaborately embroidered farthingale. The inscription records:

"Hic jacet sepulta Domina Johanna Brooke, vxor Roberti Brooke, Militis, quæ fuit primogenita filiarum Homfridi Weld, Militis, vixit annos triginta octo, et obiit xxij die Maij, A'no D'ni, 1618."

Arms destroyed, but were those of Brook of Cobham, impaling—Azure, a fess nebulée, between three crescents, ermine. (WELD).

Secondly, he married *Elizabeth*, daughter of *Thomas Culpeper*, of Wigsale, Sussex. By her he had three sons, *James*, *John*, and *Robert*, and four daughters, *Mary*, *Elizabeth*, *Anne*, and *Martha*. Their monument is in Yoxford Church, thus inscribed :—

"*Robertus Brooke Miles Fortunis æque ac moribus Par Honori Hic conditus jacet. Cui proxime accubat sua Lectissima et Dilectissima Conjux Elizabetha Rari Exempla Femina: Omnibus et Naturæ et Gratia dotibus Ornatissima: Ingenio, et Judicio, supra Sexum, Prudentia Singulari, Pietate admirabili: Cognominis Zachariæ Conjugis Effigies Expressima: Thomæ Culpeper de Wigsale, In agro Sussexienci Armigeri, Filia: Jacobi, Joannis, et Roberti (Itidem ut Pater Militis) Mariæ, Elizabethæ, Annæ, Marthaë q' mater, E Quibus Maria sola Superstes Lugens curavit Hæc Apponenda Marmoris. Ille, Jul: 10 An' Chr', 1646—Ætat 74—Hæc, Jul: 22 An' Chr', 1683—Ætat 82.*

Memoria Justi Benedicta.

Arms—1, Brook of Cobham, impaling, Argent, a bend engrailed sable (CULPEPER). Crest, on a helmet—a cap of maintenance, thereon a spread wing erect, charged with the arms of Brook—being an antient cognizance of Brook; 2, Brook, impaling, A fess dancetté between three roses or roundels; 3, In a chief two mullets (St. JOHN) impaling Brook; 4, Brook impaling, Three lions rampant; 5, Gules, a bend vairé argent and azure, between two fleurs de lis argent (Blois) impaling Brook."

Sir Robert Brook, his son and heir, M.P. for Aldeburgh, 1660-1, married Margaret, daughter of Sir Henry Mildmay, of Wanstead, Essex (ob. 1666), and was drowned in the Rhone in 1669, aged 33, s.p. Martha, his sister and ultimate heiress, married Sir William Blois, Knt., of Grundisburgh Hall, Suffolk, to whom she brought Cockfield Hall. Her son, Sir Charles, was created a baronet 15th April, 1686. She is buried at Grundisburgh, and on the north wall of the chancel is her monument thus described :—

"Mural of marble, and inscribed :—

'*Martha natu minima Roberti Brook, Eq., Aur. filia V: A: 28—Obijt 18 Sep. 1658.*'

Arms—Blois impaling Brook. Beneath are the figures of a man and woman kneeling at a faldstool facing each other, behind him four sons, behind her three daughters, all kneeling. Below is

'*Gul. Blois: jun: arm: conjugii dulcissimæ ac p'petuum desiderand: M.F.C.*'

(*Topographer and Geneal.*, vol. i, p. 552)."

Sir Robert Brook probably descended from one of the ten sons of Sir Thomas Brook, and his wife, Joan de la Pole Braybroke.

In Athelington churchyard, Suffolk, is the genealogic

memorial of *John Brook*, a descendant of *Reginald Brook*, of *Aspall*, in that county, *second* son of *Thomas Brook*, and *Joan de la Pole Braybroke*, Lady of *Cobham* :—

“*H.S.E. (Hic situs est)—Johannes filius Edwardi, filii Edwardi, Georgii, Georgii, Georgii, Edwardi, Reginaldi Brooke Arm: de Asphall in hoc Comitatu—Filii nati secundi D’ni Thomæ Brooke, Militis, Baronis Cobham de Cobham, in agros Cantiano—Filii Thomæ, Thomæ, Johannis Brooke, Mil: (filii) Henrici, Henrici, Willelmi de la Brooke arm: de la Brooke Comit: Somerset: Obeuntis anno xv Henrici III, Domini Manerii de la Brooke juxta Ilchesterii.*

Supra memoratus Johannes Brooke uxorem duxit Mariam filiam Georgii Green de Brundish in hac viciniâ ex qua Georgium et Penelopen liberos superstites reliquit. Obiit, Ille, xx^o Novembris, A.D.—M.D.ccxix; Illa, xxio Januarii—A.D.—M.D.ccxix. In memoriam inclytum majorum, et pietatem erga charissimos parentes Georgius filius unicus et hæres posuit.”

Other memorials record the deaths of

George Brooke, 8th Dec. 1732: Mary, his wife, 13th March, 1733; George Green Brooke, their son, 3rd March, 1764: Rebecca Brooke, 28th October, 1732; Penelope Brooke, wife of Rev. Nath. Rye, of Hepworth, Suffolk, 15th April, 1741.

[The brasses in this Paper, as in the former one, have been engraved from rubbings specially taken and completed.]

Cobham Hall, of the Brooks.

A REFERENCE to the portions of the structure of *Cobham Hall*, existing as completed, or in process of erection at the date of the attainder of *Henry Brook*, and especially of the ornamental details, at present remaining, may be interesting. Of the main edifice, the north and south wings appear to have been the principal portions then existing. The large expansion and completion of this fine edifice as it now appears is due to its subsequent possessors the *Dukes of Lenox*, and their descendants and present owners the *Earls of Darnley*.

An excellent detailed history and description of it is given by *Canon Scott-Robertson*—in vol. xi *Archæologia Cantiana*, pp. lxx-xc—and from it we extract the following account of the ornamental portions that had their origin with the *Brooks* now found therein. Of these—

“The southern door of the south wing, dated 1584, which suggests that

Lord Cobham commenced the work in that year, and another date 1587, and the initials W.C. and F.C. (Frances Newton) upon the heads of the leaden shooting, points to the completion of the roof of the south wing."

But the most conspicuous remnant of the exterior of the Brook mansion as then existing appears to be the handsome doorway in the south face of the north wing.

"In 1591. Lord Cobham obtained permission, under the sign-manual of King Henry IV of France, to transport, from the city of Caen, 200 tons of stone for building. Much of this stone was devoted to the construction of this doorway, which, being designed to lead directly towards the chapel is inscribed:—'*DEO. OPT. MAX.*' And in addition to the date 1594, bears the text, '*CUSTODI PRÆDEM TUUM INGREDIENS*' (Eccles., chap. v). In the spandrels of the arch appear on one side the twelve-quartered coat of William Brooke (Lord Cobham), and on the other side, within a lozenge-shaped shield, the coat of twelve quarterings, borne by his second wife, Frances Newton (of Harptree). In the second stage, we see the same shield of Lord Cobham sculptured on a large scale, with lion supporters, and the Cobham crest. The whole flanked by huge vases of flowers sculptured in stone."

The principal reminiscences of Cobham within the mansion are three fine mantelpieces, one of these is in the entrance hall, brought hither from the south wing.

"It is of coloured marble and reaches to the ceiling, dated 1587. The emblazoned heraldic coat of William Brooke (Lord Cobham), with its twelve quarterings, its huge lion supporters, and its crest (a Saracen's head), are fine examples of Elizabethan work."

The other two are in the picture gallery.

"The first (or easternmost) of these is the more handsome of the two. Its lower stage, containing the fireplace, is flanked on each side by two coloured marble columns with Corinthian caps. The two inner columns project considerably in front of the others, their shafts formed of black marble, banded with others of light colours. The cornice above them supports the second stage, which is boldly carved. The arms of Henry (Lord Cobham), encircled by the Garter, occupy its central space, which is flanked on each side by two demi-figures, issuing from small altars, ornamented with flowers, carved in bold relief. Between each pair of altars and figures the space is carved with shields and weapons. The demi-figures support a large projecting, quarter-round cornice of marble. The date upon this mantelpiece is 1599, which shows it was erected by Henry Brook, the last and hapless Lord Cobham. Remembering this fact, it is very remarkable to read the motto inscribed upon the marble, '*Sibi quisque naufragium facit.*'"

The second mantelpiece, also of marble, reaches to the ceiling, but looks poor and tame in comparison with the bold and massive character of its fellow. Both the upper and under stages are flanked by pairs of Corinthian columns, sculptured in delicate coloured marbles, but the columns are thin, and are all upon the same level, neither do the cornices above them project as in the other mantelpiece. In the upper stage appears a sculptured representation of the Fates with their human victim, who sits in the middle of the design. A nearly vertical scroll of marble on his right hand probably once bore a bronze inscription, descriptive of him and his fate. One of the Fates is seated above, another with the distaff is on his right hand, while the third appears on his left."

This curious allegory, coupled with the significant inscription on the other mantelpiece, seems to imply a presentiment of the dark fate that subsequently overwhelmed their erector; at any rate the coincidence is very striking.

The sculpture on these chimney-pieces and on the fine porch appears to have been the work of a carver named Jellis (or Giles) de Whitt, but the work proceeded very irregularly, and his steward, in 1601, thus writes to Lord Cobham—

“That he ‘must resolve what and how much you are pleased to have doon by Giles de Whitt, either upon some newe chymney piece, or upon my Lo: yo’r father’s tomb, that the poore man, have some worcke, to get wherewithall to maintaine and susteyne himself.’ It seems pretty clear that, at least, the chimney-piece, dated 1599, must have been the work of Giles de Whitt, and that he was afterwards engaged to make two others. It also seems probable that he had been brought over from the Low Countries expressly for the Cobham work, and if so all the sculpture about the house was done by him. It is interesting to identify the sculptor to whose skill we owe the work that adorns this stately mansion.”

The “yo’r father’s tomb” was probably one designed by Henry, Lord Cobham, to be erected to William, Lord Cobham, his father, but never carried out.

Frances Howard, wife of Henry, Lord Cobham.

COUNTESS OF KILDARE.

HER first husband, Henry Fitzgerald, twelfth Earl of Kildare, died 31st July, 1597, aged 37, and by him she had two daughters, Bridget, wife of Nicholas, Viscount Barnewall, of Kingsland, and Elizabeth, wife of Lord Killeen, first Earl of Fingall.

“Lady Kildare seems to have been extremely unfortunate in her husbands. She appears to have suffered so much illtreatment from the Earl of Kildare, that Queen Elizabeth caused the Lord Deputy in Ireland to interfere with remonstrances, and to order him to send the lady to England. She did not fare better when, as her second husband, she married Henry Brooke, Lord Cobham, who, at the age of thirty-three, had succeeded to his father’s title and estates, in March, 1597, a few months before Lord Kildare’s death. Soon after their marriage, Lord Cobham was arrested on a charge of high treason.

Whatever may have been the treatment received by Lady Kildare from her husbands, all testimony seems to agree in charging her with cruel neglect of Lord Cobham in his misfortunes. Yet she obtained for herself the enjoyment of (nearly) all his vast possessions during her life. Immediately after Lord

Cobham's arrest, the King seized the whole of his estates. In October, 1603. he granted to one of the Grooms of his Privy Chamber, Miles Ransford, the custody of Cobham Hall, its deer-park, gardens, orchards, &c., and in the May following, the King granted a lease of the whole of the forfeited estates in Kent, Middlesex, and Leicestershire, in trust for Lady Kildare for a hundred years, if she should live so long, dated 13th May, 1604, including Lord Cobham's house in Black-friars, London. The King reserved no rent for himself, and she had simply to pay those reserved rents, upon certain lands, which her husband had been accustomed to pay before his attainder. Yet it would seem she left him utterly unassisted during his imprisonment, which extended over more than fifteen years, and to subsist upon the royal bounty, while she enjoyed his estates."*

But some twenty years afterward, and when Henry Brook had for three years been laid in his unknown grave, and his wife was still occupying Cobham Hall, King James

"desired her to sell her life interest in Cobham, to his cousin, the Duke of Lenox, and her own cousin, the Duchess of Lenox, in order that they may obtain immediate possession, but she was not easily persuaded to do so. In June, 1622, when the King was going to Rochester to inspect his navy, he said he would call at Cobham Hall and dine with Lady Kildare, hoping that he might then be able to persuade her to sell the (reversion) of the place on reasonable terms to the Duke and Duchess. Probably the King succeeded, although not at once. Within a year or two, however, it is evident she made some bargain with the Duke, and retired to a house she had purchased at Deptford." (*Ibid.*)

Here, she made her will, dated 20th June, 1628, and in it this hard-hearted woman, who styles herself the "*right honorable Dame ffrances Countes Dowager of Kildare,*" begins with this religious exordium—

"I give and commende my soule into the hands of Allmightie god my maker and Creator, and to his deere sonne Jesus Christ my onelie Saviour and Redeemer, by the merritts of whose most bitter death and painefull passion I faithfullie trust and stedfastlie believe to be saved and to be partaker of his most blessed and glorious resurreccion and with him for ever to live in the Kingdome of Heaven. And I will that my bodie shal be decantlie buried in the Chappell of the Cathedrall Church at Westminster in the night season, as neigh the place whereas the bodies of Ffrances late Countesse of Hartford my late Aunt (her father's sister) lyeth buried as convenientlie may be."

From the *Register of Burials* of the Abbey, we learn—

"1628. The Lady Frances, Countess of Kildare, was buried in St. Benedict's Chapel, July 11."

Fitting and consistent sequel; the noble outcast in his obscure and unidentified grave; his wife—if she may be so called—sepulchred with the kings of the land. Ignored in death as well as life, the last indignity had now been offered to his memory.

**Archæologia Cantiana*, vol. xi, pp. 218-19, by Canon W. A. Scott-Robertson.

Elizabeth Brook, Lady Cecil.

SHE was the eldest daughter of William Brook, Lord Cobham, ob. 1596-97, by his second wife, Frances Newton, of Harptree, ob. 1592; and married Sir Robert Cecil, Knt., Principal Secretary to Queen Elizabeth, afterward first Earl of Salisbury; was Lady of the Privy Chamber and of the Bed-Chamber to the Queen. She was sister to Henry Brook, the last Lord Cobham, and

"on his re-committal to the Tower in 1603, he amused himself with classical study making translations from Seneca, and dedicating them to Cecil, his brother-in-law, with feeble hopes of release. But Cecil hated him, and was not above bargaining for shares in the estates. So hope died within him, and he became as lost to the outer world." (*Waller.*)

After his death, which took place in 1619, and incredible as it may appear—

"The King, too, enters his prison-house and seizes '1000 volumes of good books of all learning and languages,' which had been the solace of his imprisonment."

By which it seems that not even death could appease the implacable revengeful meanness of this King toward his victim.

Lady Cecil left two children, William and Frances, and died after the birth of a third, "*at her house in the Strand,*" on 24th January, 1596, to the great grief of her father, "which event seems to have hastened his own end, as he died the 6th March following, aged seventy-one."

She was buried by the Queen's order in Westminster Abbey, in the Chapel of St. Nicholas, with great state; her pallbearers were interesting from their local derivation, being Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Thomas Gorge, Sir George Carew, and Sir Edward Dyer. There is a marble monument to her memory, with a long inscription in Latin and English.

Sir William Brook, Knight.

HE was the eldest of the three children of George Brook (brother of Henry Brook, the last Lord Cobham), who was beheaded at Winchester, 5th December, 1603, and, according to the will of his great grandfather George, Lord Cobham, at the death of his attainted uncle Henry, was heir both to the title and estates, but under the cruel rule of James it will be seen what happened ; and, narrates Mr. Waller—

“ By the will of George, Lord Cobham, 1552, the estates were so elaborately entailed that the Crown could only be entitled to a life interest after the attainer. This the King immediately sold to Duke Brooke for £10,669, 4th May, 1605. To understand this transaction, we must recall that the immediate heirs were the three young and friendless children of George Brooke, executed at Winchester. Now the Crown had usually waived the absolute claim by which the innocent were attainted in blood, and restored the heir, possibly through the jealousy of Parliament.

But King James knew nothing of the prerogative of mercy, so nobly taught by the great and then living poet, the mercy which ‘is twice blessed, which blesseth him that gives and him that takes.’ He went in for his bond, his pound of flesh. The infants, whose innocence might have pleaded for them, were not thought of. It was some years later, in 1610, after he had done his best to beggar them, that he restored them in blood. But it was bitter irony that in this Act a strict clause was inserted, that William Brooke, the heir, was *not* to claim *any* of the property of his father, nor of that of Henry, Lord Cobham, nor was he *ever* to *assume* the title of Lord of Cobham without the King’s especial grace, which was never accorded.

Thus, the great feudal barony passes away like an insubstantial dream. William Brooke seems almost like a phantom on the scene, or as an *ignis fatuus*, now visible, now eluding the mental vision. A peer by the law of the land, but with no title, by law entitled to large estates, yet not allowed to claim them. Scarcely one of his ancestors but had not played a part in his country’s history. But shall we not record an act of his in accordance with these traditions of his family?

William Brooke was knighted, and a small pittance was granted to him out of the large estates to which he was the heir. He was married twice, first to Pembroke, daughter of Henry Lennard, first Lord Dacre ; secondly, to Penelope, daughter of Sir Moyses Hill, Bart., and by her had three daughters, Hill, Margaret, and Frances. He represented Rochester in 1628. And now, year-by-year, was the long accumulating cloud growing blacker and blacker, and more ready to burst. Great issues were at stake, which were to define our future history. King James taught kingcraft, and his son followed in his steps but to be the victim.

Sir William chose his side, in a spirit similar to his ancestors with De Montfort and in the repression of Richard II, and he died a soldier’s death at Newbury, in 1643, or from wounds received in that battle, fighting on the side of the Parliament.

Thus, then, with the rightful heir of Cobham lying dead upon the field of Newbury, the curtain appropriately falls as upon the last scene of a great tragedy. In him the barony by writ became extinct, and no more ‘than a tale that is told.’”

Here we take final leave of the three last direct representa-

tives of Brook, and their disappearance from this rightly-named "great tragedy," which overwhelmed them with its avalanche of misfortune. Of Henry Brook, weak and unfortunate, led with all its terrors up to the very jaws of death, there to experience a cat-like reprieve, but subsequently condemned to be socially dead, stripped of all his honours and possessions, dependant on his jailer for means of subsistence to eke out the remaining fifteen years of his life of hopeless captivity, disowned by his wife, and comparatively all others, until death entered the obscurity of his prison-house, and released him from his misery. Of his brother, George Brook, with existence summarily extinguished in the prime of life, carried in a blood-stained shroud from the scaffold at Winchester, 5th December, 1603. Of his, George's son, William Brook afforded the wretched mockery of being "restored" literally "in blood," and a small sustenance doled out to him from the wreck of the family estates, but absolutely prohibited otherwise to assume the honours, or make any claim to the extensive possessions of his ancestors, to whom he was the legal heir, except "by the king's especial grace," which was never accorded him; and his life was ended, stretched in death upon the battlefield at Newbury, 20th September, 1643, fighting for the return of that mercy and justice, which in life had been so rigorously denied him.

It is interesting to enquire what befel the descendants of the royal oppressor of their race, and despoiler of their home. Retribution sometimes appears to follow with halting step, but it rarely stops, and its ultimate approach is generally sure. It is written "the iniquities of the father will be visited on the children unto the third and fourth generation," and it is instructive — although a matter of common knowledge — to observe how completely this declaration became fulfilled in them.

King James himself, after narrowly escaping a violent death, passed unscathed to his great account. Not so his unfortunate

son, who, nurtured in the hazardous pretensions of irresponsible king-craft, perished on the scaffold so often set up for others. His elder grandson, generously recalled to the nation's rule, meanly revengeful, licentious, and passively cruel, left one of the least honoured names on the roll of its kings; while the younger, forgetful of his father's fate, unscrupulous and merciless (whose memory linked with his blood-thirsty minion Jefferys, lives with undying horror in these western parts) hated and deserted by his subjects, forsaken at last by his own kindred and deprived of his crown, fled for refuge to a foreign land; and when at Rochester, on Sunday, 23rd December, 1688, he "privately withdrew himself," and stepped on board "a small frigot" that immediately set sail for Ambleteuse, in France, the foot of the last Stuart king had trod the English shore. And the same adverse fate followed him and his descendants; who, after futile attempts to recover their lost position, lapsed into the comparative indigence and obscurity of exile, and at their deaths, this royal dynasty, of which they were the last direct male representatives, became as completely extinguished as that of their victims, the knightly Brooks.



The Descent of the Manor of Allerton.

BY PREBENDARY COLEMAN.

I PROPOSE to set down in order the notes that I have collected on the manor and the "Libera Capella" of Alwarditone, more familiarly known as Allerton. Distinguished from Stone Allerton, it has been designated in recent times Chapel Allerton, as possessing the "Capella" erected in the thirteenth century. In Domesday book it is written Alwarditone or Aluwarditona, and this form undergoes many changes between the eleventh century and the present day. In the twelfth century it is found as *Alwareton*,¹ in the thirteenth, as *Alewortun*,² *Alvrinton* and *Alverinton*,³ and *Alvar-ton*⁴; in the fourteenth, *Alwerton*,⁵ *Alwardtone*⁶; a favourite form in later years was *Alwerington*, and sometimes *Alvington*, a multiplicity of modes of spelling which is not a little confusing. But the prefix "Chapel" is not found on any map of Somerset until the year 1792,⁷ nor is it used in the leases of the manor granted by the Dean and Chapter of Wells until the year 1708. The origin of the place-name is perhaps to be found in the "ton" or parcel of ground belonging to "Alward." Who

1. Pipe Rolls, 16 Henry II.
2. Kirby's Quest, Fo. 313, dors.
3. Somerset Pleas Memb. 12 and 19, 22.
4. A.D. 1248.
5. A.D. 1302.
6. A.D. 1327.
7. In a map printed for C. Dilly.

this Alward was we have no means of knowing, but the name survived in the neighbourhood at the time of the Norman Conquest. "Alward and his brother held Stocke.¹ Their father held it in the time of King Edward."² There was also an Alward who was the Saxon owner of Ternoc, now Tarnock,³ some two miles distant from Alwarditone. The name was sometimes spelt "Alvert," and hence "Alverton" and Alwerton as forms of the place-name.

Both the Exchequer Domesday and the Exon. Domesday give the survey of Allerton : the latter is of importance in that it leaves no doubt as to who was the first Norman tenant of the manor, and it enumerates the cattle belonging to the lord, no less than the serfs and villeins and cottagers.

The Exchequer Domesday is as follows : "Ralph holds of Walter⁴ Alwarditone. Ulnod held it in the time of King Edward and gelded for five hides. There are added six hides which two thanes held in the time of King Edward for two manors. The arable in all is eight carucates. In demesne are nine hides wanting one yard land, and there are three ploughs and four servants and nine villeins and nine cottagers with four ploughs. There are forty acres of meadow, and three hundred acres of pasture. When he received it, it was worth eight pounds, now one hundred shillings."

The Exon. Domesday has some variations : "Walter has one manor which is called 'Aluwarditona,' which Ulnod held in the day when King Edward lived and died, and gelded for five hides. To this are added two manors which two thanes held in the time of King Edward equally (pariter), one of whom held one manor of five hides ; the other another manor of one hide. The eleven hides have eight carucates of arable. Radulfus de Contiulla holds these now of Walter for one

1. Now Rodney Stoke.
2. Domesday Survey.
3. *Eyton's Domesday Studies*, ii, 13.
4. Walter de Douai.

manor. Of these [eleven hides] R. [Ralph] has nine hides in demesne wanting half a virgate. There are three ploughs. The villeins hold two hides and half a virgate. Here R. [Ralph] has nine villeins, nine cottagers, four serfs, four animals, thirteen hogs, forty acres of meadow, three hundred acres of pasture, and is worth one hundred shillings a year. When Walter received it, it was worth eight pounds."

The important point brought out by the Exon. Domesday is that the Ralph mentioned in the Exchequer survey as the Norman sub-tenant under Walter de Douai, was Ralph de Contivilla, the foster-brother of the king himself.

Mr. Eyton's observation¹ on this survey must be added to the above. He says: "This was a case of excessive hidation. The measured contents of the three manors here combined were only 1,300 acres—960 + 40 + 300. This leaves only 118 acres of profitable land to the gheld hide. What extent of moor and waste may have attached to the three manors does not appear; nor does the present extent of the parish (1,169 acres) say much more than that the ancient manor land was considerably and perhaps indefinitely greater."

Ulnod, the owner of the manor before the Conquest, is a name met with also as owner T.R.E. of Ile Brewers. He gelded for no more than five hides. Ralph de Conteville, by two other manors being added, gelded for eleven hides, an estate of greater extent than any other in the hundred of Bimastane, as far as hidage went, greater even than the episcopal manor of Wedmor, by one hide. Walter de Douai *alias* Walscinus de Duaco, was the tenant in capite, of by far the larger part of the hundred: so that Mr. Eyton does not hesitate to say that "it would seem that the old hundred of Bimastane was formed chiefly with the object of concentrating the tenures of Walter, both those which he held in capite of the crown, and those which he held contiguously under Glaston-

1. Somerset Domesday, i, 109.

bury Abbey.”¹ Bempstone hundred has still a portion of its hundred-stone, but it has long since been removed from its original site, a commanding position on the high ground of Allerton, which retains the name of Hundredstonefield, and had been appropriated by some former tenant of the farm, for use as an “uppin-stock.” It was not a monolith, as was that of the hundred of Stone, but consisted apparently of three or more blocks of stone, placed one upon the other, the largest of which survives. Forty years ago the “old inhabitant” pointed out two other stones as parts of the structure, but it would probably be difficult now to recover them. It is matter of regret that so venerable a monument of antiquity, reaching back perhaps to the time of Alfred, or to a still earlier period, “the old and long continued trysting place of the hundred,” should have been treated as of no account.

Radulfus de Contivilla then was the first sub-tenant of the manor, after the Conquest. In him we have the ancestor of a long line of de Contevilles, who were lords of Allerton for a period of nearly three hundred years. In Richard de Conteville (1348), whose issue was an only daughter, the name died, so far as Allerton Manor was concerned.

Conteville—Comitis villa—is a village situated in the department of Eure, and distant three-quarters of a mile from the rapidly flowing river Risle, before it empties its waters into the wide expanse of the mouth of the Seine. It may be approached from Pont Audemer, the nearest town, or from Honfleur. The inhabitants are for the most part occupied in agricultural pursuits, especially in the cultivation of fruit trees. The village lies on ground which slopes to the Seine, but a part of it is situated on the top of a hill which rises out of a flat plain.²

Conteville has its church dedicated to St. Maclou, parts of

1. Domesday Studies, Somerset, Vol. i, 109.

2. For this information I am indebted to M. Jules Charlesson, the British Vice Consul at Honfleur.

which belong to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and it possesses a font of earlier date.

From this brief description of the place which gave its name to the lords of Allerton, it is time to pass on to some account of Ralph, and his connection with the Conqueror.

For more than a hundred years before the Conquest there had been an alliance between the family of de Conteville and the dukes of Normandy.¹ But Ralph could claim the relationship of foster-brother to William, by the marriage of his father Herluin, to Herleva, or Harletta, the tanner's daughter of Falaise, the mother of William. Ralph was the son of Herluin by his first marriage, and William now loaded not only his step-father with great honours, but also enriched with large possessions, in Normandy and in England, his step-father's sons, Ralph, born to him before his widowhood, and his half-brother Robert, Earl of Mortain, and Odo, the famous bishop of Bayeux. Although little is known of Ralph,² beyond the fact of his being the eldest son of Herluin de Conteville, and that he accompanied William in the invasion of England; it is stated that it was he who built the tower of the Basilica of the Priory of St. Vigor, in Normandy, which was overthrown in the year 1579.³ Herluin, his father, occupies a more conspicuous place in history. William of Jumièges speaks of him as "*Herluinus quidam probus miles.*"⁴ William of Malmesbury describes him as "*vir mediocrium opum.*"⁵ But for us the interest in this "*petit chevalier*" is that he was the founder, in the year 1040, of the abbey of Grestain, within some two or three miles of Conteville, an abbey which became the patron of the church of Norton-juxta-Hamedon, in this

1. Anderson's *History of House of Yvery* ii, 88.

2. Orderic iii, 246, "*C'est la seule mention de ce fils aîné d'Herluin de Conteville que nous rencontrons dans l'histoire.*" Footnote in loco.

3. *Nobiliaire de Normandie*, par. E. de Magny.

4. *Will. Gem.*, vii, 3.

5. *Gesta reg. Angl.*, ed. Hardy, vol. ii; iii, § 277.

county, and to which, just two hundred years afterwards, in the year before Bishop Jocelin's death, it was appropriated.¹

From Ralph's close connection with William it might fairly be supposed that he held other estates in Somerset besides Alwarditone. And such was the case. In the Hundred of Bempstone he held two virgates, in Hecui-wicca, alias Ecewicke, a manor said to be obsolete,² and one virgate in Hiwis (Hewish-juxta-Highbridge), both under Walter. In the ancient Hundred of Meleborne (now Horethorne), he held one hide one virgate in Adber, in Trent, also under Walter. Besides which he held two estates, the modern names and situation of which have not been identified. They were in "Comtuna al Contune," and contained together five hides (4 x 1) still under Walter. Here in this double manor Ralph possessed (inter alia) one hundred and twenty sheep and seventy goats, a circumstance which certainly suggests that the situation was on the Mendip Hills. Collinson³ identifies it with Compton Bishop, but after a thorough investigation into the probabilities Mr. Eyton feels it impossible to say where it was.⁴

But we must return to Ralph and his nine hides in demesne at Alwarditone. The physical features of the landscape in broad outline cannot have been very different then from what they are now. The Mendip Hills were seen on the one side, and the Polden Hills and the Quantocks on the other. The Bristol Channel came into the view in clear weather then as now. Brent Knoll rose out of the level in the near distance. The manorial lands, as we have seen, were then as now partly arable, partly meadow and pasture. But the proportions of the one to the other have been entirely altered. In 1086, the plough land was more than twice as much as the grass land,

1. Lib. Alb. iii, fo. 185, in dors.

2. May it not be identified with North Wick or South Wick in Mark?

3. iii, 582.

4. Domesday Studies, i, 215, 216.

whilst now there is comparatively little of the former remaining. Allerton moor was at that date a waste swamp, unenclosed, unmeasured in the Survey, and of no value. There were no roads through it, no rhines to carry off the water, no drainage. The main watercourse from the higher grounds was Rawlins' lane and the village street, on the one side, and Stone Allerton street on the other. Of the ancient cultivation there remain the traces, in the acre and half-acre strips of land in North-field. A manor house existed, not improbably on the same site as the present one. Ralph's dependants were only twenty-two adults, the majority of whom would naturally dwell around the manor house. "Poolhayes,"—the park and the pond—in close proximity to the house, is another landmark of the earliest times. A.D.

We have no record of the year in which Ralph died. Assuming that he was about the age of 35, at the battle of Senlac, he may have lived through the reign of William Rufus, and during the earlier years of Henry I, until 1108 or 1109. Nor is it known who was his immediate successor in the manor, but towards the end of the twelfth century we meet with *Adam de Conteville*, as lord of Alwarton. From A.D. 1169-70 1169 (16 Henry II), his name occurs in the Pipe Rolls until 1175, as debtor to the crown of five marks for one knight's fee in Alwareton.

"*Adā de Contevill deb ̄ m p recto feodo 1 mil in Alwareton.*" In 1170-71 the entry is headed¹ "*De plac Alan de Nevill Junioris,*" and so also in the two following years.² In 1174-75, "*De Aux ad Mañ fil R;*" that is to say, "concerning the aid for the marriage of the king's son."³

A memorandum is added to the entry in 1172-3, and following years "*sz n pot inveri,*" "cannot be found." Adam had disappeared, and had not yet reappeared in 1175.

1. Pipe Roll Soc., xv, 116.
2. Id. xvi, 15.
3. Id. xxii, 23.

A.D.
1162

In 8 Henry II Adam de Cunteville gave a fine to the king to have a writ of right to a knight's fee in Alvoceston, that is Alfoxton.¹

The manor of Stringston came into the possession of Adam de Cunteville (temp. Henry II), by his marriage with Amelia de Stringston, daughter and heiress of Ranulph de Stringston, the owner and inhabitant of that township. Adam and Amelia had two sons, William and Hugh de Cunteville. William settled at Dodington, and took the name of Dodington, which continued in his descendants ever after: Hugh inherited Stringston.²

In the time of King John (1199-1216), William granted all his lands in Dyche and Lymbury to John de Alfakeston.³

1196

A few years later, in the seventh year of Richard I, the "Feet of Fines" of that year has preserved the name of "Richard, the son of Robert, of Aluer-ton." It occurs in an agreement made between Ralph de St. Barbe and Richard, as to three virgates of land, with their appurtenances, in Aluer-ton. This document has not been printed in the Somerset Record Society's volume, but it is to be found in the Pipe Roll Society's publication, and⁴ certainly deserves a place in our county history. It is particularly interesting for the purpose of this paper, because it shows us how soon the sub-division of landed estates began, and it supplies us with the name of Robert as lord of the manor, as the successor, most probably, of Adam.

7 RICHARD I, 1196. 30 JAN.

"This is the final concord made in the court of the lord the king, at Westminster, on Tuesday next after the conversion of St. Paul, in the 7th year of king Richard, before Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, Gilbert, Bishop of

1. *Collinson* i, 264. Rot. pip., 8 Henry II.

2. *Collinson* iii, 518.

3. *Idem.* i, 266.

4. P. R. S., vol. xvii, p. 91-92.

Rochester, Ralph of Hereford, Richard, Archdeacon of Ely, Osbert Fitz Hervey, Richard de Hiet, Symonde Patishull, and others, the faithful of the lord the king, then there present, between Ralph de St. Barbe, claimant, and Richard de Cuinteuill, tenant, as to three virgates of land, with their appurtenances, in Aluerton, by a fine of a duel in arms, waged between them, that is to say, that the aforesaid Ralph acknowledged the whole of the aforesaid land to be the right, by inheritance, of the aforesaid Richard, and quit-claimed it from himself and his heirs, to him and his heirs for ever, and for this acknowledgment and quit-claim the aforesaid Richard granted to the same Ralph, for his homage and service in Aluerton, one virgate of land, with its appurtenances, out of the aforesaid three virgates of land in Aluerton, that is to say, that one which Richard, the son of Robert, of Aluerton, held of him and his heirs, to be held by him and his heirs for the service of the twenty-fourth part of one knight's fee, for all the service which belongs to Richard himself. And besides the same Richard gave to the same Ralph two marks in money."

A.D.

Three months after this, on May 11th, we have the first mention of Robert Tortesmaines and his wife, in connection with Allerton, in a plea taken at Westminster. It appears in the original in P. R. S., vol. 17, p. 127, and in English, in "Somerset Feet of Fines," No. 1.

1196

7 RICHARD I (A.D. 1196).

"This is the final concord, made in the court of the lord the king, at Westminster, Saturday next after the feast of S. John Evangelist ante portam Latinam, in the seventh year of King Richard, before Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Richard, Bishop of London, and Gilbert, Bishop of Rochester, and Richard Barr, Archdeacon of Ely, and Ralph, Archdeacon of Hereford, and Thomas de Husseburn, and Simon de Pateshull, and Osbert Fitz

A.D. Hervey, and Richard de Hiet, justices of the lord the king, and others, the faithful, and barons of the lord the king, then there present. Between Richard Parfet, claimant, and Robert Tortesmain and Matilda, his wife, tenents by the same Robert, her husband, put in the place of the aforesaid Matilda, to gain or to lose in the aforesaid court, for half a virgate of land, with its appurtenances, in Alurinton, when plea was brought between them in the aforesaid court; that is to say, that the aforesaid Robert and Matilda acknowledged the said half virgate of land, with the appurtenances, to be the right and inheritance of the said Richard, and they quit-claimed the same for themselves and their heirs, to him and his heirs in perpetuity, as his right and inheritance, and for this acknowledgment, and quit-claim, and concord, the aforesaid Richard gave to the aforesaid Robert and Matilda twenty shillings sterling."

1201-2 There are two documents of the third year of King John, relating to Allerton which follow: The one belongs to the month of June, the other to October, 1201-2. The former is No. 49 of "*Somerset Fines*," and is an agreement between Richard de Cunteville and Robert and Matilda Tortemains. These names we have had already; but two other names mixed up with the estate now come before us, viz.: those of "*William Turkil*"¹ and of "*Richard Bulgun*." This instrument reads as follows:

"At Ivelcestre, Wednesday next after St. Barnabas, between Richard de Cunteville, claimant, and Robert Tortemains and Matilda his wife, tenents; for three virgates of land in Aluerinton; recognizance of mort ancestor was summoned: Robert and Matilda acknowledged the land to be the right and inheritance of Richard; and for this concord Richard conceded all the said land to Robert and Matilda, to be held of him and his heirs for the life of

1. *Turkil* held Clewer, and Backwell, T.R.E.

Matilda by the service due to the king. And after the decease of Matilda one virgate of the aforesaid land which William Turkil held and one ferlingate which Richard Bulgun held shall remain to the said Robert Tortemains and his heirs, to be held of Richard and his heirs, doing therefor such service as belongs to five ferlingates : for this Robert and Matilda gave Richard three marcs in money. And be it known that the residue of the three virgates other than the five ferlingates ought to come back again. And Richard de Cunteville and his heirs freed Robert and his heirs after the decease of Matilda."

A.D.

The latter is from Somersetshire Pleas (S.R.S.), Roll No. 1171, Memb. 12d., in the Assize taken at Taunton. In this matter Hugh de Grenton and his wife Sabina, with others "seek against Robert Tortemains one virgate of land with the appurtenances, in Alverinton, as the right and inheritance of Robert,¹ father of Sabina, Rohesia and Amabel, the first being the wife of Hugh, the second, Rohesia, of Thomas le Border, and the third, Amabel, of William de Vauton or Walton."

"Robert came and demanded a view. So let him have a view. A day is given him in the month after Michaelmas, at Westminster. In the meantime let the view be had. And be it known that the writ speaks of the same Robert, and of Henry de Cunteville who essoined himself *de malo veniendi* and that Robert answered of his own free will without any coercion."

In this third year of King John, Ralph Lovell of the Barony of Kary, representing Walter de Douai, was the overlord of Richard de Conteville, and was succeeded by Henry Lovell in 1207. He died in 1218, leaving a widow Christiana and a son and heir, Richard. Henry had settled on her in lieu of her dower (inter alia), the services, reliefs, marriage, and wardship due of the manor of Alwarton, held of him as of his honor of Kary by Richard de Counteville. In

1201-2

1207

1. This Robert is shewn to be one Robert Pakerele.

A.D.

1218-19 3 Henry III (1218-19), Christiana became the wife of Richard Cotel.¹ Accordingly, Richard and Christiana put in their claim at Ilchester in the same year for "the services, escheats, wards, reliefs, marriages and fees" of Richard de Counteville, in respect of "one knight's fee and two hides, and one virgate of land in Alwarton."² Richard was a witness to the transaction.

1242 There is a writ of the grand assize for 26 Henry III,³ in which Andrew, son of William le Fraunceys, tenant, appears against Robert de Cuntevill concerning half a ferling of land with the appurtenances in Alleuuarton, and prays a recognition to be made which have the greater right in that land."

Pleas of the crown at Yhevelcest'r on the quindene of S. Hilary before Roger de Thurkileby and his companions in the 27th year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John.

1243 At this date one mode of bringing an offender to justice was "the appeal" or private suit of the injured person.⁴ And we have now a case to record of Richard de Cuntevill *appealing* Nicholas Eylward and Matilda his wife, of breach of the peace and robbery. Richard comes and sues against them.⁵ Nicholas and Matilda do not come. They were attacked by Walter Emeri, Walter Tortemayns, and Richard de Alverington. Therefore, all are in mercy; that is to say, they are at the arbitrament or discretion of the court for punishment.

What would be termed to-day a cross summons follows :

"The same Nicholas Aylward appealed Richard de Cuntevill, David Costentin, Peter de Cuntevill, and many others of breach of the peace of our lord the king. He does not come, and he had no pledges beyond the aforementioned. All the appealed come, and have not compromised, and are

1. *Anderson's History of House of Yvery* I, 230.

2. *Somerset Feet of Fines*, p. 33.

3. *Somersetshire Pleas*, p. 122, memb. 13.

4. *Intro. to Somerset Pleas*, xlvi.

5. *Pleas*, p. 249, 250.

not guilty. Therefore all are quit, and Nicholas and his pledges are in mercy." A.D.

It appears, as will be seen later on, that ill feeling existed between the Eylward or Aylward family and the de Conteville family : and this little quarrel may have been the beginning of differences in time to come ; but we must not anticipate an event of the 14th century when we have not yet reached the middle of the 13th.

In this year we have a notice of Robert, and of Nicholas de Cuntevill. It occurs on the roll of the Eyre, of 31 and 32 of Henry III. They are summoned after non-appearance at Newport Pagnel, where the assize was held, in the matter of restoring to Muriel, formerly wife of Robert de Sancta Barba, chattels of hers to the value of £10, which they owe her.¹ 1247

Richard de Cunteville, one of the jurors is fined half a mark for default at assizes, at Lambeth, before Henry de Bracton, 38 Henry III. 1254

Item. Ricardus de Cunteville tenet Alewortun de Hugone Lovell, per servicium feodi unius militis, et idem Hugo de Rege in capite.² 14 Edward I. 1286

Richard de Conteville held a knight's fee in the village of Bagdripe, of Hugh, Lord Lovel, of Castle Cary (Lib. feod. 19 Ed. I).³ 1291

He also held two knights' fees and a half in Cricket S. Thomas, of Sir Hugh Lovel, Knt.⁴

Both Hugh and Richard de Conteville are named as among the possessors of land of most note in the time of Edward I.⁵ 1301-2

Sixteen years later the manor was still held by Richard, for in that year a cause was tried at York between Richard de Cuntevill, of Alwerton, and John, son of Isabella de Wyk,

1. Somersetshire Pleas, p. 351, memb. 32d

2. Kirby's Quest., S. R. S., vol 3, p. 8.

3. Collinson iii, 91.

4. Id. iii, 116.

5. Id. Introd. xxvii.

A.D. querents, and William de Burne, deforciant, for a messuage and a ferling and forty acres of land in Alwerton and Overwere. The fine proceeds: "Plea of covenant was summoned. Richard acknowledged the right of William; for this William, at the request of Richard, granted the same to John to hold, to John and the heirs of his body, of the chief-lords of that fee. If it happen that John shall die without heirs of his body, then the said tenement shall wholly remain to Agnes, daughter of Richard de Cuntevill and the heirs of her body, to hold of the chief-lords of that fee. If it happen that Agnes die without heirs of her body, then the said tenement shall wholly remain to Egelina, daughter of Richard, and her heirs, quit of the other heirs of John and Richard, to hold of the chief-lords of the fee by the services belonging."¹

It so happened that both John de Wyk and Agnes de Cunteville died without issue, and so the lands came into the hands of Egelina, who married one John Bole, of whom we shall hear again in the year 1345 (19 Edward III). The above Richard, who appears to have died in 1303, was the father of six children, two sons and four daughters. His heir was Baldwin. The four daughters were Isabella, Agnes, Margaretta and Egelina. Isabella had become the wife of — de Wyke, and was the mother of a John de Wyke. Egelina, as already stated, was the wife of John le Bole. Margaretta married Nathaniel Pecche. Agnes appears to have died unmarried. Besides Baldwin there was a son, whose name was John.

[The signature of Baldwin is found on a Wells charter, A.D. 1307,² and among witnesses, in A.D. 1339, to documents, is Sir John de Wyke, knight.³]

1308—9 Hitherto no mention has been made either of that part of the parish which is known as Ashton, or of the existence of the mill, or of the church. But in the early years of the four-

1 Feet of Fines, S.R.S., vol. 6, p. 320.

2 Lib. Alb. i., Fo. 123.

3 Wells Cath. MSS., No. 261.

teenth century, in the Feet of Fines of 3rd and 11th Edward II, we have reference made to them. A family of considerable importance in the county was that of the Langelondes, and a name which occurs in the after history of Allerton was Welsh. Ashton and Allerton are mentioned together in the year 1308, in connection with these names. A.D.

“ At Westminster, in three weeks of Easter, between Nicholas de Langelonde, querent, and Robert le Walys, of Wol-lavyngton, and Isabelle, his wife, deforciant, for a messuage, forty acres of land, twelve acres of meadow and nine shillings rent, in Asshton and Alurinton. Robert and Isabelle acknowledged the right of Nicholas to hold of the chief lord by the services due ; and they warranted. For this Nicholas gave Robert and Isabelle forty marcs of silver.”¹

Baldwin de Counteville, son of Richard who died circ. 1303, 1317-18 was lord of the manor of Allerton, in succession to his father. And in the Fine subjoined, of the 11th year of Edward II, is the first recorded notice of-“ a mill ” and “ the advowson of the church.” A mill was one of the most necessary adjuncts to a manor house, and probably a mill has stood on the site where the Allerton mill stands to-day for more than 800 years. In the reign of Edward VI the old mill was in ruins, and was rebuilt, as will be shewn under the year 1549. From the manor house to the mill, and from the mill to the hundred stone must in old times have been a frequent walk.

There is reason to believe that the church, the advowson of which is referred to in this Fine was built in the early part of the thirteenth century. It has been said that the old font is Norman, but that is doubtful. There is no trace of Norman work in the fabric of the church, but there is an early thirteenth century window in the south wall of the nave, to the west of the porch. And that a church existed in the year

1. Som. Fines, S.R.S., vol. xii, p. 16

A.D. 1247, as a "capella," appertinent to the church at Wedmore, can be shewn by documentary evidence.

1317-18 "At Westminster, in the octave of S. Michael, between Baldewin de Countevill, and Richard his son, querents by John Manship in their place; and John le Riche of Wedmor, deforciant; for a messuage, a mill, a carucate of land, and twenty-four shillings rent in Alewarton and the advowson of the church. John granted the tenement and advowson to Baldewin and Richard to hold to them and the heirs of the body of Richard begotten; and if Richard die without such heirs, then after the decease of Baldewin the same to remain to John, the brother of Richard and the heirs of his body; and if John die without such heirs then to Constantia the sister of John, the brother of Richard; and if Constantia die without such heirs, then the whole shall remain to the right heirs of Baldewin. For this concord Baldewin and Richard gave John one hundred marcs of silver."

1327 The Exchequer Lay Subsidies, as they are termed, were a tax of $\frac{1}{20}$ th granted by Parliament to Edward III in the first year of his reign, of all movables which were in each man's possession on the preceding Feast of S. Michael and All Angels. The Rolls of Parliament give us the lists of those taxed in each hundred. The special object of the tax was to provide the king with money to defend the kingdom against invasion by the Scots.¹ The sum total of the assessment in the hundred of Bempstone was £17 10s., whilst that of Alwardtone was three shillings. The highest sum received from Alwardtone was xii^d. paid by Nicholas Kyle; four others paid vi^d. each, viz.: Peter Bygoyn, Elias Talpayn, Henry Wyne, and Henry Wylles. This is by far the smallest amount paid by any place in the hundred, and this fact leaves the impression on our minds that the Conteilles were certainly not resident at this time. It must, however, be remembered that

1. cf. Preface to Vol. iii, S.R.S., p. xxvii, note.

the names under Alwardtone refer to the Tything, and not to the parish. In the list of those paying in Boydesham and Tornock (Biddisham and Tarnock), John Contyvyll's name appears as one of the larger payers.

With the name of John de Conteville, two incidents connected with Alwarton come before us. The first is a petition of John, as "rector of the free chapel of Alwarton," to the Archbishop of Canterbury to restrain Bishop Ralph de Salopia, bishop of the diocese, from interference with him, on the ground that the Dean of Wells was his "ordinary," and not the bishop. The free chapel of Alwarton had now been standing on its present site for more than a hundred years. Chaplains or rectors had been presented to it by the lords of the manor. It was among the "pertinenciæ" of the Church of Wedmore, and the Dean of Wells, as rector of Wedmore, exercised jurisdiction over it.

In Bishop Ralph's register is the inhibition of the bishop from disturbing John in peaceable possession of his benefice. It explains how matters stood.

"The Official of the Court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

"The petition of John de Conteville, rector of the free chapel of Alwarton, exhibited to us contained that, although the same John had possessed the said chapel, being notoriously exempt from your immediate jurisdiction, and subject to the jurisdiction of the Dean of Wells, and on the part of the said John, fearing prejudice, it was appealed to the apostolic see. You, nevertheless, *at the instance of John Alward, priest*, ordered the said John to show his title to the said chapel, and as well by yourself as by John de Middleton, rector of Bledon, and Stephen Tripp, rector of West Cammel, your commissaries disturbed the said John de Counteville. Wherefore we inhibit you and your commissaries pending the matter of appeal in the Court of Canterbury, xviii Kal., May, A.D. 1338.¹

1. Fo. 174.

A.D. Who this John Alward, priest, the instigator of the bishop was, we cannot say—there was one of this name who was Vicar of Timberscombe in 1336¹—but, if he was a descendant of Nicholas Aylward, A.D. 1243, this looks like a continuance of the animosity of the previous century.

The second incident is a dismal one. It is recorded in the *Liber Ruber*,² that in the month of September, 1338, Cristine Cokes de Cokelake was charged with the crime of fornication with John de Countevyle the younger of Albartone; and that she was sentenced to walk twice barefooted round the church of Banwell, a penance which may possibly have been performed in the presence of Bishop Ralph.

1344–5 In Somerset Fines, p. 229, vol. xii, there is reference to a messuage, and a ferling and forty acres of land in Alwerton and Overwere when John Bole and Egelina are deforciants, and Nicholas Fraunceys and John Queynt, querents.

1347 *Richard de Conteville*, the son and heir of Baldewin and Margerie, was lord of Allerton in 20 Edward III, and with him the direct male line of the de Conteilles came to an end. This Richard had an only daughter, Elizabeth, who became the wife of Thomas de Gournay, son of Anselm de Gournay, Lord of Overwere, and by this marriage the two manors of Allerton and Overwere became united for a time in the one family of de Gournay.

To Thomas and Elizabeth de Gournay was born an only daughter, Joan or Joanna. She married George de la More, or Bythemore, lord of Nailsay, with whose descendants the manor of Allerton remained for one hundred years. The family of Bythemore, alias de la More, alias Attemore, alias More of Nailsea, was an ancient and honourable one. It traced its descent from Ralph de Mora, who lived in the reign of Henry I. The name of Richard de Mora occurs in connection with Somerset in A.D. 1205. The immediate ances-

1. Somerset Incumbents, p. 457.

2. Fo. 67.

tors of George were Stephen, his father, and Bartholomew, his grandfather. A.D.

In the 14th year of Richard II, George and Joan Bythemore were party to a Fine in which the reversion of the manor of Overwere was limited to George, and to the heirs of himself and Joan after the death of Aleanor, then wife of Richard Power, and widow of Thomas de Gournay, who held the same in jointure. 1391

Another deed of the 7th Henry IV is a suit in which William Howys and Philip Clifffield were plaintiffs, and George and Joan Bythemore were defendants. The estate is described as containing at this time $11\frac{1}{2}$ hides of land together with the advowson of the church of Alwarton, and was limited to George and Joan for the term of their lives. Remainder to *William*, son of George, and Isabel, his wife, and the heirs of their bodies. 1406

William succeeded his father before the 7th year of Henry VI. Among the Wells Cathedral MSS. is a charter (No. 630), in which William More, of Naylsey, esqre., grants his manor of "Alverton" to Thomas Brown, Baldwin Brown, John Torell, John Whytynge, and John More, of Brydcombe,¹ and the heirs of Baldwin. It was signed and sealed at "Alverton," on the Saturday after the Feast of S. Bartholomew the Apostle, in the 25th year of Henry VI, and the witnesses to the deed were Sir Walter Rodney, Knt., Thomas Wake and Richard Arthur, esqres., William Gascoigne, mayor of Wells in that year, and M.P. for the city of Wells, Thomas Whytton, and many others. 1429 1447

William Bythemore was a man of high standing in Somerset, for when in the 7th year of Henry VI an order was issued from the crown to the sheriffs and justices of the different counties to select a certain number of men-at-arms from among the most ancient knights and gentlemen, of the respective 1429

1. For an interesting account of Brydcombe see S.A. and N.H. Soc. Proceedings, xxvii. pt. 1, 37, 38.

A.D. counties, whose ancestors had borne coats of arms from times of antiquity, to serve the king in their own persons, for the defence of the realm, this William Bythemore was among the twenty men of Somerset who were chosen.

William's first wife was Isabel . . . who appears to have died without issue. His second wife was Joan Warre, by whom he had a son and heir, John Bythemore, lord of Nailsey, Overwere and Alwarton.

The notices of John extend over the years 1462-1481, a period almost corresponding with the reign of Edward IV. His wife was Alice Toky, alias Pedyll, of Bridgwater, and by her he had a son, William.

1462 Among the Wells Cathedral MSS. there is a charter, No. 668, an abstract of which is given in the report of the Historical MSS. Commission, p. 309. It does not bear immediately on the history of the manor of Allerton, but it does so indirectly, and may therefore find some notice here. Besides which it is a document of some interest in itself. It is an arbitration between John More, and a man of Mark, named Robert Deye, alias Robert Kykke, about lands in Wurcheston, Wynnesmere and Burnham. The three arbitrators were men of great eminence. They were first, Humphrey, Lord Stafford of Southwyke, who had fought on the Yorkist side at the battle of Towton, the year before, and was knighted by Edward IV on the field, and whose execution, at Bridgwater, by order of the same king, only seven¹ years afterwards, is matter of history; second, Nicholas Carent, Dean of Wells, the "*nobilis ac facetus decanus*," of Ferrandus, a distinguished visitor to Wells;² third, Sir Richard Chok, then Justice of the Common Pleas, and four years after this Lord Chief Justice of England.

The award was given in favour of John More, "as kinsman and right heir of Baldewyne Countevyle, late lord of Alwarton, viz.: son of William, son of Johanna, daughter of Elizabeth,

1. Dict. of Nat. Biog., vol. liii, p. 454.

2. Correspondence of Bishop Bekyngton, ii, 321.

daughter of Richard, son and heir of the said Baldewyne," In A.D.
two minor points the document is also of interest. The names
of the sons of the soil in 1462 are the names of the inhabitants
of the district to-day, after more than four hundred years.
They are Hykkes, Gyllinge, Day, Roper, Adams, Chappell.
Even the unusual name of Kykke survives in the parish of
Mark. Looking back, too, over the preceding century, and
the struggle for independence of the lord, on the part of the
labourers, it is, perhaps, worthy of note that a release is given
to these men as "*labourers*," and to one of them as a "*wener*,"
i.e., wagoner.

From this, and from the documents that follow, it is evident 1468
that the ancient lords were relaxing their hold on the land, and
that a new system of farming was beginning to find place.
The growth in the fifteenth century of a farming class, and
the increase of leases, were facts that the landlords had to face.
Loans of money to the landlords appear among the documents :
for instance, John and William Bythemore, father and son,
"of Alwerton," bind themselves for the sums of two hundred,
and one hundred pounds, to four men, three of whom were
clergymen.¹

Through his marriage with Alice Toky, John Bythemore
appears to have become associated in the business of his estate
with men of standing in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater, like
William Dodesham² and Thomas Tremayle.³ In 1475 we find
that he had made over to these the rents and services due to
him from lands and tenements "in Alwerton and Overwere."
Walter and Johanna Sparke, and Thomas their son, the
tenants of John, accordingly engage to render the same to
Dodesham and Tremayle.

John died in 1480, leaving his son William, then of the age 1480
of thirty-eight years, as his successor. He is the last of the

1. Wells MSS., 668, 669.

2. Of Cannington.

3. Wells MSS., No. 696.

A.D. Bythemores connected with the manor. He held it for eight
 1488 years, but in the third year of Henry VII he obtained a
 license from the Court of Common Pleas, to defeat the settle-
 ment, and effect a sale, thus conveying it away from himself
 and his heirs. He claimed "the manor of Alwarton and the
 advowson of the church, also twenty messuages, six tofts, a
 dovecot and a mill, six hundred acres of arable land, two hundred
 acres of meadow, two hundred of pasture, and a rent of twenty-
 four shillings in the manor."¹

1481 The Inquisitio post mortem of 20 Edward IV, makes John
 Bythemore to be possessed at his death of the following
 estates :²

" Johe's More Armiger
 Alwarton maner⁹ et advoc⁹ Capell.
 (Castelcary maner⁹ membr⁹)
 Overwere maner⁹
 Batelbourgh maner⁹
 Nayleseey maner⁹
 Edyngworth
 Burnham } Septem messs
 Hurtcote et } cum divers
 Lytelton } terr⁹."

1488 One Thomas Ustewayte, and a Richard Isham, the former
 connected with Wells, and the latter with Isle Brewers, were
 the purchasers ; but four years after, they too obtained a
 1492 license for the sale, and the estate was conveyed to John
 Gunthorpe, Dean of Wells, and the aforesaid Thomas Uste-
 wayte. There is in the possession of the dean and chapter the
 deed of renunciation of the manor, by Thomasine the widow of
 William Bythemore.³ Thus, after the lengthened ownership
 through more than 400 years by the Contevilles, Gournays,
 and Bythemores, an uninterrupted lineal descent, Allerton, with

1. *Anderson's House of Yvery*, ii, 36.

2. *I.p.m.* 20, Edw. IV., No. 69, Vol. iv, 401.

3. *Wells Cathedral MSS.*, 727.

A.D.
3 H. VII.,
Rot. 434.

its manor, its windmill, and the advowson of the church passed into the hands of the Dean and Chapter of Wells, through the gift of John Gunthorpe. If the Dean and Chapter had not commuted their estates with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for a fixed income in 1866, they too would have held the estate for another 400 years. As it is, they were the owners for about 370 years, and still retain the patronage of the rectory in their hands. It is not a little remarkable that for the long period of more than 800 years there should have been virtually one family, and one ecclesiastical body, lords of the manor.

Dean Gunthorpe died in 1498, having appointed John Ustewayte, and Richard Hatton, a canon of Wells, and chaplain to Henry VII, his executors. His death occurred in the spring, for, on the 9th of June, the sub-dean and chapter appoint Thomas Cornish and Thomas Gilbert, as seneschals and guardians of the deanery, *vacant by the death of John Gunthorpe*. The manor of Allerton, their new possession, comes at once to the front. Being now patrons of the benefice, they appoint Thomas Gilbert, "to the Free Chapel of Alberton, vacant by the death of William Stevens." Six months after this, "in mutual convocation assembled," they "transacted the business connected with the manor of Alberton."¹ It now appeared that the purpose for which Dean Gunthorpe had granted the manor to the Chapter, was to support and find a mass to be celebrated daily at certain altars, in the Cathedral church, for the repose of his soul. It was resolved "to begin it, and to continue it daily and for ever." It will be seen presently that the resolution was more easily made than carried out.

But to keep to the documents in order of time, notice must be taken in passing of a deed relating to an annual rent charge of six-shillings and eightpence on a property described as "Benam's Place within the Manor of Alwerton," and so designated as the deed asserts "*ab antiquo*." It is a release of this

1. Wells Cathedral, *Reynolds*, p. 197.

A.D. mynde and favour he hadde unto you, remembryng also ye be oon of the brethren of our churche, that ye will take of the same lyvelode, for the tyme, as little as ye may. And thus orderyng yourself we shalbe as gladde to folowe your mynde as ye shal desire us. Praying you that ye will give credence to our brethren, herers herof, in that they shall move unto you in our behalf to whom we geve full auctorite to conclude with you for this matter and other we have to do. And thus Jhesu have you in his blessed kepyng. At Wells, the xxxth day of May. By your lovyng brethren, Deane and Chapitre of Wells.

“To our wel-beloved brother Mr. Richard Hatton, Chapelayn to our sovereigne lord the king.”

Notwithstanding the difficulties with which the Dean and Chapter had to contend in securing the possession of their manor, the early part of the sixteenth century saw the system of leases and fines in operation, and tenants of “the farm,” paying an annual rent.

1530 In the 20th year of Henry VIII the farm was leased to Thomas Bowyer, of Tornock, and Mary, his wife, and Luce, their daughter, at a rental of £18. At the death of Thomas, Mary and Lucy continued as tenants, certainly down to the
1549 second year of Edward VI, for at that date an indenture was made with John Mawdley, of Wells, a celebrated “clothier,”¹ for the rebuilding of the windmill, conditions in favour of “Marye Hill and Luce, her daughtr, now farmers of the manor of Allerton,” being inserted. “Marye” had apparently “changed her name” from Bower to Hill. The windmill has been mentioned in 1317-18 as part of the manorial possessions, and had been included in the holding of the farm. But being now in a ruinous condition, it is leased as a separate property to a man who had capital at his command wherewith to rebuild it.

1. *Leland* in his *Itinerary*, ii, 69, 1540-42, says “Mawdelyne was a late a great clothiar, in Wellys, and so is now his sunne.”



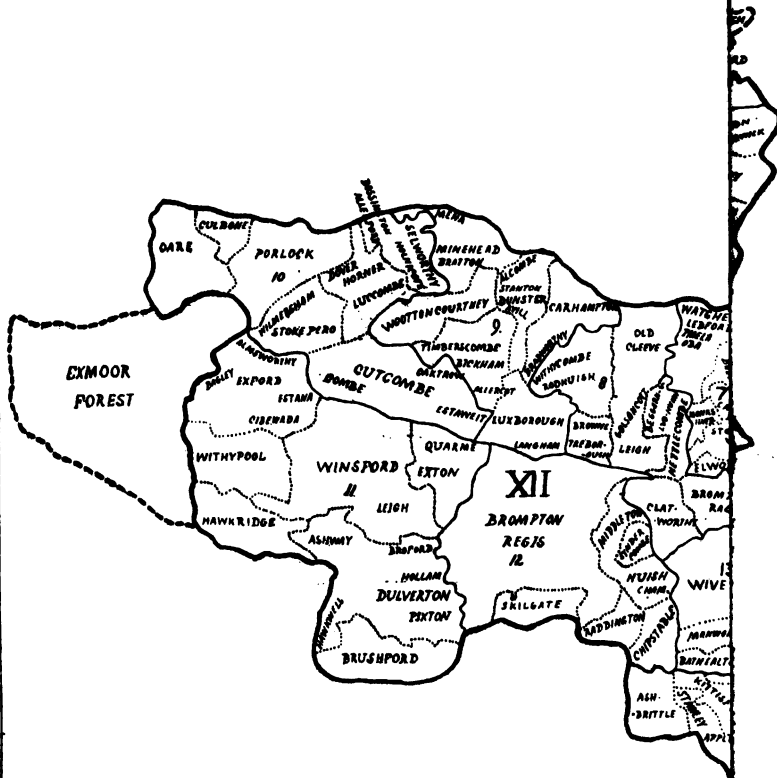
SOMERSET.

Boundaries of Districts —

Ditto of County when

noncoincident with District

Ditto of Blocks — ; of Civil Parishes



The Five-Hide-Unit in the Somerset Domesday.

BY THE REV. E. H. BATES, M.A.

AT the outset an explanation of the agglutinated expression, "Five-hide-unit," is necessary. Every reader of Domesday knows that in that mighty record four statements in particular are set down for each vill or holding,—the new owner and the value of the vill when he received it, and the late owner and the number of hides for which the vill paid Dane-geld in the reign of King Edward the Confessor.

It is with the last fact of the four that this essay is concerned. The statement about the geld is simple enough in itself. It was a species of land-tax instituted, likely enough, by Ethelred the Unready, to obtain money to buy off the Danes. Or, if this is assuming too much, then an older payment, so intimately connected by the English with the incursions of their enemies, as to retain their memory in its name as late as the days of Henry II, when the Danes were as much to be feared as the legions of Rome.

But what was the Hide, the unit of assessment on which the tax was levied? As the hide was undoubtedly an areal measure for some purposes, it was only natural to answer the question thus: Divide the acreage of the vill by the number of hides at which it was assessed, and the result will be the size of the hide. But as early as the days of Sir Edward Coke this formula was found unsatisfactory, because no six results were ever the same; and down to the time of Kemble, anti-

quaries wearied themselves in trying to solve the puzzle as to the number of acres in a hide.

At length Eyton in his preface to the *Key to the Domesday of Dorset*, 1878, referred to the hide as "a measure of qualities, conditions, and values," rather than a fixed area; and considered the hide, with its sub-divisions, the virgate and the ferndel, to be "names merely borrowed from the vocabulary of other systems of areal mensuration, or if from any single system involving these proportions, then from a system which was antiquated long before the Conquest." And he refers elsewhere to the "fallacy of the Domesday hide being an areal measure at all." Having cleared his mind of this fallacy, he unfortunately picked up another one—that the land for one plough, "terra ad unam carucam," was always 120 acres. So Eyton must be set down as one who believed in an exact and universal area in the Domesday measures, merely substituting the "carucate" for the hide.

Another view has now been set forth by Mr. J. H. Round, of which I endeavour to give a précis from the essay in *Feudal England*, 1895. In examining the *Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigiensis*, which he calls the true key to the Domesday system, Mr. Round was struck by the number of villis which were assessed at five hides apiece. This fact is more or less obscured in Domesday, because the villis are arranged not locally but personally, that is, in each county the villis are surveyed under the owner's name, so that villis held by two or more owners are widely separated. In the *Inquisitio* the total number of hides in each vill is given before the survey of the aliquot parts; and the hundreds of the county arranged in tabular form showed that, in Cambridgeshire at least, neighbouring manors possessed of diverse acreage and an ever varying number of plough lands, might be all rated at the same number of hides, which are nearly always five or a multiple. The Domesday of other counties having been worked over with the same results, Mr. Round deduced the following statement: that the assess-

ment in hides bore no ratio to area or to value in a vill ; that the assessment was not objective but subjective, that is, not fixed relatively to area or to value, but so far as possible arranged that each vill or part should have an assessment of five hides, a multiple, or a fraction of this figure.

So the theory of the principle on which the hidage was arranged must be reversed. Instead of starting from a vill carefully assessed in hides according to the actual size or value, and so increasing through the hundreds up to a grand total for the county, the exact opposite took place. So many hides being supposed by the Witenagemot to be in the county (the total being based on traditionary estimates), the county court divided the sum among the hundreds, these having already lost any connection with arithmetical ideas ; then the hundred court settled the assessment on each vill or part, again relying on traditionary figures.

At this point Mr. Round calls a halt, until "there can be for the whole hidated region of England a complete and trustworthy analysis of assessment."

Now Mr. Eyton's analysis of the Somerset Domesday¹ can be brought into action. By making use of the Exeter Domesday and the Geld Inquests bound up therein, he endeavoured to arrange the vills, whole and fragmentary, hitherto scattered under the owners' names, in the hundreds to which they belonged, and to identify them with modern places. Somehow or other he overlooked the coincidence of the hidage of so many vills being assessed in five-hide-units, although in more than one instance he was evidently struck by it.

Perhaps, after all, it has been for the best that Eyton confined his labours to identifications. Without his work much time must necessarily have been taken up in correcting the identifications of Collinson ;² and even that accomplished, the results would always have lain open to the suspicion of having

1. *Rev. R. W. Eyton*, "Domesday Studies in Somerset," 2 vols, 1880.

2. *Rev. J. Collinson*, "History of Somerset," 3 vols., 1791.

been subordinated to the needs of the theory. As it is, I have applied a theory adopted from independent study, to an analysis made without any reference to it ; for to use the catch-word of another controversy, Eyton "knew nothing" of the five-hide-unit theory, and the result is, I venture to think, a confirmation alike of theory and analysis.

In the following tables Eyton's analysis has been arranged according to Mr. Round's theory. For this purpose the county has been arranged in twelve districts, containing one or more hundreds apiece ; and each district has been sub-divided into blocks containing assessments of twenty hides, with a few double and triple instances. The reasons for producing two new sets of areas are these.

I very soon found that though a large number of villis either severally or re-unitedly contained five hides or a multiple, yet many did not fall under this rule. Then it gradually became clear that adjacent villis were combined to form units or multiples ; and after a good deal of calculating, it seemed that an aggregation of twenty hides, that is a quaternion of five-hide-units, practically brought all the villis under the law of five hides or a multiple.

The two rules I laid down for my guidance in the matter were : (1) that the several villis making up the block must be adjacent ; (2) that all the portions of a divided vill must be in the same block. To this second rule there is only one exception, Merriott in District X. The exceptions to the first rule, though more numerous, are nearly all due to the presence in the district of some one very large vill, whereby the smaller villis were cut off from the blocks to which they by arithmetic belonged. These exceptions will be discussed in the notes on each district.

The effort to arrange the whole county on the Procrustean rule of twenty-hide blocks, also led incidentally to the discovery of certain errors, either clerical or topographical, in Eyton, and of certain omissions in Domesday, in addition to the one

already pointed out. In every instance I have been able to produce, either from Domesday itself or from other good authority, evidence for each case, without which my claim would be rightly put out of court at once.

I do not at present feel able to decide whether there is sufficient evidence to show that those blocks were in reality a portion of the scheme of assessment ; or, to use an architectural similitude, if they are to be regarded as the framing in a half-timbered house, an integral part of the building ; or simply as a builder's scaffolding, to be removed as soon as the work is completed. In the latter case the vills will still remain in units and multiples.

With regard to the other new area, the district, the case is very different. In the process of building up the twenty-hide blocks, it was evident that to complete them it would be necessary to overleap the limits of single hundreds ; and again a survey of the whole county showed that the hundreds and free manors could be aggregated into districts containing 300 or 200 hides apiece. The rule employed was that the district should contain every vill locally situate within it, thus excluding vills detached from the main bulk of the hundred within the district, but including the vills belonging to other hundreds. To this rule there is only one real exception, Whitox-Meade, which locality, situate in District III is reckoned under District IV. In, I think, two instances, vills on the borders of their hundred and district have been transferred to the adjoining district.

Although Group would be perhaps a more natural term for these aggregations of hundreds, I have chosen the term District to emphasize my belief that the present hundreds are divisions of the larger area, and not that the larger area was formed by grouping the hundreds together. But the real importance of the districts will be discussed after they have been passed under review.

The map is based on the index map of the Ordnance Survey,

which gives the boundaries of the civil parishes after the changes of 1884. It is hardly necessary to remind readers that the modern civil or ecclesiastical parish may be composed of vills which temp. Domesday were absolutely distinct. But while I have often separated vills now grouped together, it has not always been possible to alter the boundaries of the parish (indicated by dotted lines); and so these must be looked on as only approximately correct.

In the Tables, the first column contains the Domesday vills under the modern names as identified by Eyton; the second column the different parts of divided vills; the third column the hidage of each vill. The hide was divided into four virgates, each virgate into four fertines or ferndels, and each fertine contained seven-and-half acres, of which 120 made up one hide.

DISTRICT I.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	4.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
N. Perrott		10 . .	Tintinhull		7 1 .
Haselbury		10 . .	Montacute		9 . .
		20 . .	Thorne ...	2 . .	
				1 1 .	3 1 .
2.					19 2 .
Chisselboro'		5 . .			
Norton ...		5 . .			
Stoke ...	5 3 .				
" ...	2 1 2				
Stoke ...	1 3 2	10 . .			
		20 . .	5.		
			Sock Dennis	3 2 .	
			" ...	1 2 .	5 . .
3.					7 . .
Chinnock ...	7 + 4 + 3	14 . .	Limington		2 . .
Odcombe ...		5 . .	Oakley ...		6 . .
Lufton ...		1 . .	Chilthorne	3 + 2 + 1	20 . .
		20 . .			

DISTRICT I—continued.

6.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.	11.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.
Draicote ...				2	.	.	Adber ...	1	1	.			
Ashington				3	.	.	" ...	.	3	.			
Mudford ...	5	.	.				" ...	1	.	.			
" ...	4	2	.								3	.	.
" ...	3	.	.				Marston ...	5+2			7	.	.
Stone ...				12	2	.	Rimpton ...				5	.	.
				2	.	.	Whitcombe				5	.	.
				19	2	.					20	.	.
7.							12.						
Brympton				3	.	.	Poyntington				2	2	.
Houndstone				1	.	.	Charlton H.	10+5			15	.	.
Preston Pl.				2	.	.							
Coker ...				15	.	.					17	2	.
				21	.	.	13.						
8.							Goathill ...				1	.	.
Yeovil ...	6+2			8	.	.	Milborne P.				1	.	.
Lyde ...				2	.	.	Ilchester ...				3	.	.
Barwick ...				2	3	.	Henstridge	10+4			14	.	.
Closworth				7	.	.					19	.	.
				19	3	.	14.						
9.							Templecomb	8+5			13	.	.
Hardington				10	.	.	Turnie ...				.	3	.
Pendomer				5	.	.	Stowell ...				3	.	.
Sutton Bing.				5	.	.					16	3	.
				20	.	.	15.						
10.							Horsington				11	.	.
Trent ...				7	.	.	Cheriton S.				6	.	.
Sandford Or.				6	.	.	Cheriton N.				5	.	.
Corton Den.				7	.	.							
				20	.	.					22	.	.
							TOTAL ...				295	.	.

District I is made up of the Domesday Hundreds of Milborne, Givelea, and Liet, now Horethorne, Stone and Yeovil, Houndsborough Barwick and Coker, and Tintinhull hundreds.

In Milborne hundred, Eyton's identifications are taken as they stand, for reasons will be given in the notes on District II for believing that the duplicated entry of Charlton here and there is an error in Somerton hundred.

In the other part of the group several changes will be necessary. The first alteration is in the items making up the ten-hide vill of Stoke-under-Ham. Eyton has two parts, but a third Stoke he identified with Birchenstoke *i.e.* Bichenstoke in Chew hundred. As the three fragments together made exactly ten hides, I became suspicious of Eyton's view, and made a search for the evidence which should connect Bichenstoke with the family of Beauchamp, after whom it is supposed to have received part of its name; but answer came there none. In fact this is one of the cases where Eyton allowed himself to follow Collinson's lead, without the independent enquiry which would have shown his error. In the exhaustive article on the family of de Beauchamp, by Mr. J. Batten,¹ Bichenstoke is never alluded to as in their possession, except in this Domesday connexion, their holdings in the northern part of the county coming in with the marriage of John de Beauchamp with Cecilia de Vivonia, c. 1270. Bichen is not an uncommon prefix: Bichen-stock in Wilts, identified by Canon W. H. Jones with Beechingstoke; Bykennalre now Bicknoller in West Somerset; and divers places in the Devonshire Domesday. Bichenstoke belonged to the Barry family in the reign of Edward I.

"Achileia" is said to be Hurst in Martock, apparently because Domesday reckons it as part of that manor. But as it is well understood that a place might be said to be in such and such a manor, when, as a matter of geography, it was

1. *Proceedings*, Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society, 36, ii, 20.

several miles away ; instead of supposing a change of name, some existing place, manor, tithing, farm, or even less should be searched for to represent the Domesday vill. This seems to be Oakley in Chilthorne Domer, which is mentioned as a separate holding in a fine of 3 John ; three hides in Akeler and Ciltone, *see* also Kirby's *Quest*. I have also brought into this hundred one of the few places which Eyton left undeterminate, Eslide, a manor of Roger Arundel. It seems to be the same place as Lyde, a tithing in Yeovil parish. In Kirby's *Quest*, Robert fil. Pagani holds Lude in Stone hundred of the king, and it is on record that he succeeded to many of Arundel's manors.

One other identification must be touched upon. In the Gheld-Inquest there is a reference to an unnamed manor of two-and-threequarter hides held of the bishop of Sco. Laudo by Osbern, which is in Yeovil hundred, but pays its Gild in Liet hundred (now Coker). There is no entry in Domesday which can be identified with this manor. There are two parishes in this neighbourhood which are not given in Domesday, though in existence by 1200, Barwick and Chilton Cantelo. Barwick was part of Stone hundred in the reign of Henry III ; though soon after its owner was enabled to hold them as a separate hundred.¹ Barwick being on the frontier of Stone and Coker hundreds, seems to answer very well to the status of the Gheld Inquest Manor which was connected with both these hundreds ; and the silence of Domesday, though a very great, is not an insuperable bar, as at least one Somerset manor was omitted (see after Group IV) in the Survey. I have therefore resuscitated the anonymous manor as Barwick.

In Block 13, Ilchester seems an exception to the rule that the component vills should be adjacent. The regal possessions in Ilchester were reckoned as a member of Milborne ; and this attachment was probably the reason why the hidage of the two boroughs should be united.

1. *J. Batten, Historical Notes on South Somerset*, pp. 3, 29.

By means of these alterations, for all of which I have been able to bring forward some evidence, the greater part of the manors may be arranged according to the theory—five hides, multiples, or fractions. An occasional overplus in one block, *e.g.*, 7 is counterbalanced by deficiencies in adjacent ones 4 and 6. No. 8 is one virgate short. In blocks 12, 13, 14 there is a more serious deficiency, amounting to two-and-half hides in No. 12, one hide in No. 13, and one-and-quarter hides in No. 14, for I think that this block was only intended to be eighteen hides, to counterbalance the twenty-two hides in the adjacent block, No. 15. An explanation will be attempted afterwards, but at present it can only be noted that four hides and three quarters are wanted to make these three blocks conformable.

DISTRICT II.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	4.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Brewham ...		12 . .	Milt. Cleveld.		10 . .
Stony-Stoke		3 . .	Upton Noble		3 . .
Redlynch ...		4 . .	Bruton ...	$1\frac{1}{2} + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + 1\frac{1}{8}F.$	2 3 $1\frac{1}{8}$
Discove ...		1 . .	Ansford ...		5 . .
		20 . .			20 3 $1\frac{1}{8}$
2.					
Yarnfield ...		2 . .	5.		
Kilmington .		5 . .	Pitcombe ...		5 . .
Penselwood .		3 . .	Shept. Mont.		5 . .
Cucklington		7 . .	Knowle ...	$1\frac{1}{2} + 1$	2 2 .
Stoke Trist'r		3 . .	Yarlington .		7 . .
		20 . .			19 2 .
3.			6.		
Charlton M.		5 . .	Maperton ...		5 . .
Wincanton .	$3\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$	4 . .	Blackford ...	$4 + 1$	5 . .
Bratton S.M		4 . .	Compton P.		6 . .
Holton ...		2 . .	Woolston {	$3 \quad 1 \quad 2$	4 1 2
Clapton ...	$3 + 2$	5 . .		$1 \quad . \quad .$	
		20 . .			20 1 2

DISTRICT II—continued.

7.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	12.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Cadbury N.		12 . .		1 1 2	
Cadbury S.	$2\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4}$	3 . .	Foddington.	2 1 .	5 . .
Sutt. Montis		5 . .	Queen Camel	1 1 2	15 . .
		20 . .			20 . .
8.			13.		
West. Bam.	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 2 \ 2 \ 2 \\ 1 \ 2 \ 2 \\ . \ 2 \ . \end{array} \right.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 4 \ 3 \ . \\ 5 \ 1 \ . \\ 5 \ . \ . \\ 5 \ . \ . \end{array} \right.$	Stert ...		2 . .
Sparkford ...		5 1 .	Cary Fitzpn.		. 3 3
Barrow N. .		5 . .	Lytes Cary .		1 . 1
Barrow S. .		5 . .	Milton Pod.		6 . .
		20 . .	Charl. Ad. ?*		2 . .
			„ Mack.		3 . .
			„ addita		. 2 .
			Denesmodes		. 2 .
			Lydford E. .		4 . .
9.					
Castle Cary.		15 . .			20 . .
Alford ...		5 . .			
		20 . .	14.		
			Camel W' .		10 . .
			Yeovilton ...	8 + 2	10 . .
10.					
Lovington .		6 . .			20 . .
Wheathill ...		3 . .			
Lydford W.		9 . .	15.		
Barton pt. ...		1 . .	Long Sutton		10 . .
Kein. in Bar.		1 . .	Somerton ...	$4 + 1 + \frac{1}{2}$	5 2 .
		20 . .	Pitney ...	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$	1 . .
			Aller ...		2 . .
			Worth ?§ ...		1 2 .
11.					
Bart. S. Dav.	$3\frac{1}{2} + 1\frac{1}{2}$	5 . .			20 . .
Kingweston .		5 . .	TOTAL ...		300 2 $3\frac{1}{8}$
Keint. Mand.		5 . .			
Babcary ...	$2\frac{1}{2} + 2\frac{1}{2}$	5 . .	*** Cari.		
		20 . .	§ Oathe.		

District II is made up of the hundreds of Bruton (now Bruton, Catash, and Norton Ferrers), Somerton, and that part of Pitney which was liable to the Gheld. It contains three hundred hides and a fraction more. It also includes Milton Podymore, which temp. Domesday was in Frome hundred.

In Bruton hundred Eyton's identifications stand, with the exception of Milton Clevedon. I have already given reasons in the *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries*, v, p. 346, for removing the vill of Milton assigned by him here, to Milton in Winterstoke, and for placing here the Milton of Matthew de Moritania, rated at ten hides, which Eyton had omitted altogether. This alteration restores harmony in the blocks, and is based on historical evidence. In Somerton hundred Eyton introduced a vill of Charlton, identified as Charlton Adam, which he had duplicated in Milborne hundred as part of Charlton Horethorne. This item of five hides was wanted in the latter hundred to make the figures of Domesday agree with those of the Geld Inquest. For the instances where the Domesday total is less than the Geld Inquest figures are fewer and the difference trifling, compared with the instances in the other direction. As the Geld Inquest for Somerton hundred is missing, no assistance can be derived thence. The historical evidence is fairly decisive. The Charlton in dispute was held by Reginald de Valle-Torta under the Court of Moretaine, and was rated at five hides. The undisputed manor of Charlton (Horethorne) held by Robert Fitzgerald was rated at ten hides, so that the two parts of Charlton were one-third and two-thirds. Now it is confirmatory of this division that in 5 Stephen, 1139-40, Gerard de Campville gave two parts of the tithes of Charlton to Berdmonsey Abbey, and that his son Richard gave to Kenilworth Abbey the remaining third with the church, perhaps after the divided parts of the manor had been reunited under the same owner.

As it will be necessary to point out at intervals, the fact that by far the greatest part of the vills in Somerset fit into

twenty-hide blocks, tends to make it probable that in the very few instances to the contrary, the difficulty is rather due to the lapse of time and loss of evidence than to an actual disagreement. An examination of block 13 will show how perfectly the small vills and fragments combine together if this identification be allowed. An additional five hides here would upset the system, just as much as their absence would District I.

Then what is the Domesday prototype of Charlton Adam? The Charlton now left in the hundred, divided into two parts rated at three hides and a half, is identified by Eyton with West Charlton or Charlton Mackrell. Then there are three vills called Cari. One held by Roger Arundel, rated at three virgates three fert.,¹ is no doubt Cary Fitzpaine. Another Cari held by Humphrey the Chamberlain was rated at one-and-quarter hides, that is one quarter of five hides. As five hides composed one knight's fee, *vide* Pedes Finium, 3 John, No. 41, 5 John, No. 26, in *Somerset Records*, vol. vi, pp. 17, 21; this Cari may be assigned to Lytes Cary, set down in Kirby's *Quest* as held by William de Lit for the fourth part of one knight's fee. Then there is the third Cari, rated at two hides, also held by Humphrey the Chamberlain. This was identified by Eyton, but as we have seen superfluously, with a part of Lytes Cary. At the same time, Charlton Adam is apparently omitted in Domesday, unless it can be identified with this third Cari.

Mr. Batten, in *Historical Notes on South Somerset*, p. 125, discusses the title of de Mandeville to Charlton Adam, but as this was only acquired in the reign of Henry III, its earlier history was not necessary. In the Cartulary of Bruton Abbey (*S. R. S.*, viii,) are some early charters relating to Charlton Adam, which seem to supply the missing link between Cari and Charlton. During the episcopate of bishop Robert, 1142-1166, John Fitzhamon presented the church of Charlton Adam

1. Eyton, by a slip, enters it as three hides three virgates.

to the abbey, and the charter of confirmation by the bishop contains a clause that Roger, son of Odo, quitclaimed his right to the advowson, concerning which he had begun a suit. Well, in the Pipe Roll for 14 Hen. II, 1167-8, *i.e.* just after the latest possible date of the confirmation charter, Roger de Viliers paid a fine of forty shillings, "pro defectu," that is for not putting in an appearance or abandoning some suit already begun.¹ This is a coincidence of some value. But Roger de Viliers was the son-in-law and (in the person of his son) coheir of Helias de Orescuil, whom Eyton considered to be the representative of the Chamberlain (*Som. Domesday*, i, 66, 67). The weakest point in this chain of evidence is the presence of Roger claiming in his own right as early as 1167. In the first place the Orescuil property was not divided between the representatives of the female coheirs until 1210 (Rot. Pip. 12 John); and even supposing that Charlton Adam with apparently only a weak title had been the *dot* of Roger's wife, Alice de Orescuil, then her name would have been mentioned with his in the quitclaim clause. This last difficulty makes it probable that Roger was fighting for his own hand. His claim may have been based upon nothing better than an exercise of the good old rule and simple plan, which in the troubled reign of Stephen was a favourite means of conveyance, or he and Fitzhamon may have had a royal grant and fallen out in the division of the spoils. A seizure of the father's lands may seem a curious prelude to wooing the daughter, but such an introduction is not altogether unknown in modern times.

In block 1, Brewham will be found by itself. Eyton placed with it a certain "addita" of three virgates, and a portion of Witeham "abbata de Brewham." As these two portions make an integral part of block 1 in District III, wherein Witham is situated, I have transferred them thither, without prejudice as to their rightful hundred temp. Domesday.

In block 2, Yarnfield and Kilmington are separated from

1. *Reeves*, "History of the English Law," edit. Finlason, i, 411.

the other manors by an intervening piece of Wiltshire—Stourton; and a smaller portion, Gasper, which used to belong sometimes to one county and sometimes to the other, until a Local Government Order put a stop to such vagaries.

In block 4, Upton Noble is separated from Bruton by a part of Brewham. It will be found generally that these divided blocks occur on the borders either of other districts or of the county itself. The one-and-one-fifth fertine was an “ablata de” Bruton in Redlynch, and the half hide lay in Kilmington, though a part of the royal manor of Bruton. One must notice that these two pieces, with the two fertines in Woolston, make up the superplus over three hundred hides, and that if they are omitted, the contiguous blocks, 4, 5, 6, are twenty-and-quarter, nineteen-and-half, and twenty-and-quarter hides respectively, or an average of twenty hides. With this result should be compared, in District I, the three adjacent blocks, 4, 6, 7, containing nineteen-and-half, nineteen-and-half, twenty-one hides. The two items in Bruton may be accounted for as becoming liable to hidation at a later period, but the two fertines in Woolston are not so easily disposed of.

In block 10 I have included two pieces of Barton St. David, which are certainly not wanted with their namesake in block 11, and do just as certainly fit in where I have placed them. There is a geographical point where West Lydford meets a piece of Keinton, pushed up between itself and Barton St. David, and this may mark the position of the two hides.

In block 13, East Lydford is included, although it is separated from the block by Kenton Mandeville and Babcary. This seems to be its proper home, and it is curious that it still belongs to the hundred of Somerton, to which all the other constituent members of the block (with the exception of Milton Podymore) belong. Also it would be possible to pass from Lydford East to block 13, without trespassing into the parishes aforementioned, by keeping along the great Fosse road, which may have been looked upon as a bridge. The excess of

the total number of hides in this district is quite minute, and as I said above, may be partly accounted for by portions of exempt royal domains becoming the property of a subject and then hidated.

DISTRICT III.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	5.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Witham ...	1 + 2	3 . .	Road ...	9 + 1	10 . .
Brewham, in		. 3 .	Laverton ...		10 . .
"Ufetone" .		1 . .			20 . .
Eastrip ...	1 + $\frac{1}{4}$	1 1 .			
Wanstrow ...	5 + 4	9 . .			
Marston Big.		3 2 .			
Keyford ...		. 2 .	6.		
Egford ...		1 . .	Norton S. Ph		10 . .
		20 . .	Hinton Char.		10 . .
					20 . .
2.					
Cranmore ...		12 . .	7.		
Downhead .		3 . .	Englishco'be		10 . .
Whatley ...		5 . .	Twerton ...	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ + 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 . .
		20 . .			20 . .
3.			8.		
Cloford ...		10 . .	Newt. S. Loe	7 + 3	10 . .
Nunney ...	5 + 5	10 . .	Corston ...		10 . .
		20 . .			20 . .
4.			9.		
Rodden ...		1 . .	Combehay...		2 . .
Berkeley ...		2 2 .	Dunkerton .	3 + $\frac{1}{4}$	3 1 .
Standerwick		1 2 .	Carlingcott .		3 2 .
Beckington .		10 . .	Eachwick ...		. 1 .
Orch'rdleigh		5 . .	"Evestia" .		1 . .
			Camerton ...		10 . .
		20 . .			20 . .

DISTRICT III—*continued.*

10.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	14.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Ston. Lit'ton	2, 1½, 1½	5 . .	Mells ...		14 2 .
Forscote ...		5 . .	Millescote ...		5 2 .
Writhlingt'n		6 . .			
Walton ...		3 . .			20 . .
		19 . .			
11.			15.		
Hemington .		21 . .	Ashwick ...		. 2 .
			Stratton ...		3 . .
12.			Pitcot ...	3½ + 1½	5 . .
Buckld. Din.		12 . .	Kilmersdon .		. 2 .
Lullington .		7 . .	Radstock ...		7 3 .
		19 . .	Woodboro' .		1 . .
					17 3 .
13.					
Elm ...		5 . .			
Hardington .		4 . .			
Wydergrave		2 . .	TOTAL ...		297 3 .
Babington...		5 . .			
Luckington .		5 . .			
		21 . .			

District III, though as large as Nos. I and II, is peculiar in that it consists of only one Domesday hundred, that of Frome. This is now divided into the hundreds of Frome, Wellow, and Kilmersdon, besides certain liberties. Eyton's tables require but the smallest of corrections. Keyford (Kaivert) is not two hides, but two virgates. "Caivel" is identified by him with another part of Keyford, but this would not fit in with the theory of the five-hide-unit, and was in another way objectionable. I have identified it with Cholwell in Cameley (see District V, 6), which is more likely from the phonetics, and the vill fits in perfectly in its new home.

The second manor in Nunney is without a name in Domesday (Exeter and Exchequer). Eyton, by an examination of

internal evidence (i, 158, *seq.*), placed a manor of the abbey of Montebourg here. It contained five hides, and its presence brings block 3 up to the required total.

Two manors, Tellisford five hides, and Farleigh Hungerford half hide, are omitted in the table, as they would not combine with any of the neighbouring blocks. Now the Geld Inquest for 1084 gives 298 hides for the figures of Frome hundred; Eyton gives $306\frac{1}{2}$ hides, but when the entry relating to Kaivert has been corrected, and Caivel removed altogether, the amount is reduced to $303\frac{1}{2}$ hides, which differs from the Geld Inquest by five-and-half hides, the exact amount of the two manors mentioned above. A theory concerning this fact will be stated later on.

In block 1 are placed an "addita" to Brewham, three virgates, and one hide, then in Witham, but which is noted as having been an "ablata" from Brewham. Eastrip, which is now in Brewham, and therefore in Bruton hundred, was at this period in Frome hundred. I cannot pretend to account for this addition and subtraction, but when the items are added together here they make a very neat result. The Exchequer Domesday gives the larger estate in Witham as three hides, instead of two, the figure of the Exeter Codex. Here the theory supports the latter authority.

Block 2. Downhead was certainly not in the hundred temp. Domesday. See some notes in District VI.

Block 9. The site or modern equivalent of "Evestia" is unknown. Eyton notes that the Domesday list places it between Corston and Ashwick. A charter in the Bath Chartulary (*S. R. S.*, vii, 25) mentions that "Geofanstiga," *i.e.* "Evestia," is on the rivulet Camelar.

In block 10, the three first villis are situate on the right bank of the river Somer; Walton is in Kilmersdon parish, now reduced to a farm house, but apparently with Luckington (in block 13) making up the modern parish of Kilmersdon, unmentioned in Domesday, except as regards its church, which was endowed with one half hide. This block falling short of

the ideal number by one hide, is exactly balanced by the twenty-one hides of the huge vill of Hemington, which touches all the four vills.

Blocks 12 and 13 also balance each other, but in the case of 13 I must confess the rule of contiguity breaks down. This is partly caused by the proximity of the two large vills of Hemington and Mells. Elm is separated from Hardington by Buckland Dinham, while Mells intervenes between the latter and Babington with Luckington. The two blocks could be re-arranged into two contiguous combinations of thirty and ten hides apiece.

In block 15, Radstock seems to want two hides and a quarter to make it a vill of ten hides, to make block 15 up to twenty hides, and to round District III into 300 hides. Of this again.

DISTRICT IV.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	4.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Freshford .	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$	1 . .	Weston ...	15 + 5	20 . .
Woodwick .		2 2 .			
Firford ...		2 2 .			
Monk. Com.		9 . .			
		15 . .	5.		
			Kelston ...		5 . .
			Charlcombe .		4 . .
2.			Widcombe .		10 . .
Claverton .		5 . .	Whitoxmead		1 . .
Bathampton		5 . .			
Bathford ...		10 . .			20 . .
		20 . .			
			6.		
3.			Bath ...		20 . .
Batheaston .	3, 2, $1\frac{1}{2}$	6 2 .			
Bathwick ...	4, 2, 1	7 . .			
Tatwick ...	$1\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$	2 . .			
Woolley ...	1 + 1	2 . .	TOTAL ...		115 . .
Langridge...		2 2 .			
		20 . .			

District IV contains only 115 hides, being the patrimony of the religious establishment at Bath. An unusual wealth of charters enables the historian to trace their history back to the reign of Osric, king of the Hwicci, c. 676. He gave one hundred "manentes," which are adjacent to the city which is called "Hat Bathu," to the abbess Bertana and the nunnery (*Bath Cartulary*, S. R. S., vii, 7). By Domesday twenty hides had been added, being the assessment on Bath itself, but on the other hand five hides had disappeared from the district. By a process of exhaustion, these hides can be localised at either North Stoke or South Stoke. Either vill has an Anglo-Saxon charter of dotation, mentioning the number of hides as five. Kemble marks both these charters as spurious, still, one of them must represent a genuine gift. As the position of South Stoke fits in the best with the twenty-hide block theory, the blocks are arranged accordingly, to the exclusion of North Stoke, which under the circumstances may originally have been the smaller (five hide) portion of Weston. This curtailment of the assessment by five hides, with the similar diminutions in Districts I and III, will be noticed later on.

As regards Freshford, the Rev. T. W. Whale¹ would identify it with Vexford, in Stogumber, a situation more in accord with its position in Domesday. But this test cannot be insisted on, and all other evidence, both that collected by Eyton and the new test of the five-hide-unit, retain it here.

Block 1 is accordingly five hides short. Block 5 now presents a somewhat disintegrated appearance, which is yet not incompatible with original symmetry. Kelston is cut off from the district by Weston, a complete block in itself. This manor is omitted in Domesday, though clearly referred to in the Geld Inquest. As Eyton says "it is an omission of the Great Record, a thing not lightly to be suspected, but nevertheless a fact." But for this manifest default it would have been impossible to postulate the omission of Barwick (Dis-

1. *Proceedings Bath Field Club*, ix, no. 2, p. 136.

trict I). Then Kelston is joined in the same block with Charlcombe, Lyncombe, and Wittoxmead. The first two are now divided by Bath itself, and the last-mentioned vill is locally situate in Wellow parish in District III. The first difficulty may be got over by remembering that Bath was a royal possession, and therefore not included in the hidation scheme, until the time of Edith, wife of Edward the Confessor. There are no charters to explain when Wittoxmead was added to the original donation of king Osric. It is hardly likely to have formed part of his gift, as it lay in territory beyond his sway, and one can only suggest that when some later royal benefactor (for Wellow was regal property) gave the vill, the assessment of one hide placed on it was compensated by a corresponding relief on the Charlcombe assessment.

DISTRICT V.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	4.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Saltford ...		4 . .	Chew Magna		30 . .
Keynsham .		50 . .	Clutton ...		10 . .
Norton Malr.		5 . .			40 . .
		59 . .			
2.			5.		
Priston ...		6 . .	Farmboro' .	5 + 5	10 . .
Wilmington		3 . .	Timsbury ...	5, 3, 2	10 . .
Stant. Prior		3 . .			20 . .
Marksbury .		10 . .			
		22 . .			
3.			6.		
Comp. Dund.		10 . .	High Little.		5 . .
Chelwood ...	5 + 3	8 . .	Hallatrow ...		4 3 2
			Cameley ...		9 . 2
			Cholwell ...		1 1 .
		18 . .			20 1 .

DISTRICT V—*continued.*

7.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	10.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Farringd. G.		5 . .	Harptree E.	5 + 5	10 . .
Stone Easton	4½, 1½, 1¼	7 1 .	Harptree W.	5 + 5	10 . .
Haia		2 . .			
Chilcompton		5 . .			20 . .
		19 1 .			
8.			11.		
Emborough .		3 . .	Comp. Mart.		5 . .
Chewton ...	29 + ½	29 2 .	Ubley ...		5 . .
Litton ...		8 2 .	Blagdon ...		10 . .
		41 . .			20 . .
9.					
Hin. Blewett		7 . .			
Moreton ...		5 . .	TOTAL ...		300 . .
Chewstoke .	3, 2, 1¾ ¾, ½, ½	8 2 .			
		20 2 .			

District V contains the Hundreds of Keynsham, Chew, and the greater part of Chewton, omitting the isolated vills of Yatton and Kingston Seymour. In the notes on Districts I and III will be found my reasons for removing Birchenstoke from this hundred, and adding to it Cholwell. There is a discrepancy in the Domesday entry relating to Hinton Blewett. It is said to geld for eight hides, but the different items of holdings only amount to seven hides, which Eyton considers to be the correct amount. I have therefore entered it as a seven-hide vill, and this correction makes the total of the District exactly 300 hides. In the hundred of Chew, Eyton enters Hawkewella 1v. 1¼f., and identifies it with Norton Hawkfield. This is an extraordinary blunder, caused by following Collinson. Hawkfield is simply a corruption of Hautville, Latin, de Alta Villa, the family name of the holders

in the thirteenth century, just in the same way as the Malrewards gave their cognomen to the other portion of Norton ; the vill having been divided at some date subsequent to 1066. Hawkewella will be found in Hawk-well ; there are two places of this name in West Somerset, one in Dulverton, the other in Cutcombe (see notes on District XII). Eyton did not proceed further in the identification of Haia beyond the certainty that it was in Chewton hundred. I identify it with Hay Street in Stone Easton. The totals of the blocks look rather ragged at first sight, compared with the results in the earlier districts, as out of eleven, only four contain twenty hides exactly. But on the other hand it is very noticeable that the gaps balance ; the deficit in block 1 corresponding to the overplus in block 8, while blocks 6, 7, 9, with a total of sixty hides, meet on the confines of Hinton Camely and Farrington. In block 7 Chilcompton is isolated from the other vills by Binegar, reckoned to be in Wells, and Midsomer Norton with its detached member of Downside. These places, as well as Paulton, are not mentioned in Domesday, and were included in other manors, apparently Wells and Chewton.

DISTRICT VI.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	4.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Batcombe		10 1 .	E. Pennard	19 + 1	20 . .
A 'member'		2 . .			
Westcombe		7 3 .			
		20 . .	5.		
			Ditchheat ...		5 . .
2.			A 'member'		7 . .
Evercreech		20 . .	"		1 . .
			Lamyat ...		5 2 .
3.			Alhampton		6 2 .
Doulting ...		14 . .	Hornblotton		5 2 .
A 'member'		2 3 .	Baltonsboro'		5 . .
Charlton ...		3 1 .	Stone ...		5 . .
		20 . .			40 2 .

DISTRICT VI—*continued.*

6.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.	7.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.
Pilton ...				2	.	.	Wells ...	50 + 2			52	.	.
Crocombe				3	.	.	Westbury ...				6	.	.
Pylle ...				5	.	.							
Wootton ...				5	.	.					58	.	.
S. Mallet ...				6	2	.							
				21	2	.	TOTAL ...				200	.	.

District VI contains the hundreds of Wells Forum and Whitstone, with the vill of Baltonsborough, now in Glaston Twelve Hides. It does not include Downhead, an isolated manor of Whitstone. At the date of the Survey, Wells Forum was included under the spacious heading, "Terra Episcopi Gisonis." Whitstone hundred was, in Eyton's words, "in a somewhat indefinite status." Domesday makes it to contain 120 hides with Downhead and Baltonsborough, whereas the Geld Inquest is only levied on 115 hides. As Downhead had in all probability a distinct inquest (now lost), there is only a difference of two hides between the two sets of figures, which is not so large a discrepancy as in many other hundreds. What is of more importance at present is that the total of 117 hides added to the seventy-eight of Wells Forum is only 195, five hides short of a symmetrical result.

An entry in Domesday will I think account for this shortcoming. At the end of the list of the Glastonbury estates are a series of entries relating to lands which at this time had passed into the hands of others. Among the land-grabbers was the earl of Moretain, who held Stane, valued at £9, Stoca and Stoca, worth forty shillings, and Dregcota, also worth forty shillings. Eyton identifies Stone with Stone in East Pennard; Stoca and Stoca with Stoke Lane; and Dregcota with Draycott in Shepton Mallett. In no case is the hidage of the vills given; the only means of identification, other than the owners' names, being their value.

Now an examination of the table will show that no increase of hidage is required in the case of Doultling and Shepton Mallett. At the same time it appears that Draycote in Limington Moretain's property was valued at forty shillings; also that an Estochet al. Stochet (late Beechenstoke) and Estochet (Stoke-under-Ham) are each worth forty shillings apiece. It does not seem too much to conclude that these statements are simply duplicate references to the same vill. With regard to Stone the conditions are reversed. The only other Stone in Domesday is the one in Stone Hundred, owned by Serlo de Burcy, and worth ten shillings. Other men and other value. The high value of the Stone of the Count of Moretain presupposes a fair hidage, and curiously enough, five hides in the adjacent vill of Ditchheat are rated as high as £12. So, all things considered, it does not seem too great a demand on the liability to err of Domesday, to suppose that here again is a case of omission. It is the third and last time that Domesday will be required to confess to a slip. The first, that of Kelston, was established by Mr. Eyton; the second, that of Barwick, seems borne out by the testimony of his witness, the Geld Inquest; and for the third there is the indirect evidence of Domesday itself. The risk involved in entering the ownership of a vill, disputed by the highest secular and spiritual persons in the county, with king William as the final court of appeal in the background, may have caused such perturbation in the minds of the jurors, as to result in a temporary loss of memory in the case of Stone. The difficulty that then arises from the excess of the hidage in the Domesday entries over the figures of the Geld Inquest, will be met by removing Baltonsborough back into Glaston Twelve Hides. Eyton remarks that the "dominicum" of the abbot in Baltonsborough is necessary to complete the figures in the Geld Inquest; but if Stone had passed from the abbot to Moretain between 1084 and 1086, this objection would not apply, and the recent date of the transfer would account for the confused nature of the entries in 1086.

Another very interesting point occurs here. "The Domesday details of hidage amount to 120 hides for twenty-one items of estate (including Downhead), but when Domesday masses these items into groups, it supplies a total of only 118 hides."¹ Now reverse this true statement, and it means that when the large vill in Whitstone were broken up by subinfeudation, two hides were added to the original assessment; in Ditchat half a hide, in Pilton one hide and a half. The table shows that these additions destroy the symmetry of the block-system, but that at the same time they balanced a deficit in Wells. It seems very plain that the bishop had contrived to shuffle the liabilities attaching to two hides on to his neighbour and rival, the abbot of Glastonbury and his tenants.

DISTRICT VII.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	4.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Easton-in-G.		12 . .	Wraxall ...		20 . .
Portbury ...		8 . .	"addita" ...		1 . .
		20 . .			21 . .
2.			5.		
Portishead .		8 . .	Tickenham .	$8\frac{1}{2} + 1\frac{3}{4}$	10 1 .
West.-in-G.	$7 + 3\frac{1}{4}$	10 1 .	Chelvey ...	$1 + \frac{1}{4}$	1 1 .
		18 1 .	Midgehill ...		1 . .
			Brockley ...		4 . .
			Claverham .		2 . .
			Kenn ...		. 2 .
3.					
Clapt.-in-G.		5 2 .			19 . .
Walt.-in-G.		3 2 .			
Clevedon ...		5 2 2			
Kingst. Sey.		5 2 .	6.		
		20 . 2	Yatton ...		20 . .

1. *Eyton*, i, 196.

DISTRICT VII—*continued.*

7.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	10.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Long Ashton		20 . .	Winford ...	10 + 1	11 . .
			Regilbury ...	2, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$	3 3 .
			Butcombe ...		3 . .
			Aldwick ...		2 . .
8.			Haryat ...		1 2 .
Backwell ...	10 . .		Shepbwurda		. 2 .
Barrow Gur.	10 . .				
		20 . .			21 3 .
9.			TOTAL ...		200 0 2
Wrington ...		20 . .			

District VII contains the hundreds of Hareclive (but not Bedminster), Portbury, the isolated portion of Chewton, Kenn, now in Winterstoke hundred, and Havyat Green, now in Wrington, but placed by Eyton after Collinson in Burrington. These villas are all to the north of the river Yeo, which I have taken as the southern boundary of the district. I have also brought into block 10 "Shepbwurda al. Scepeworde," for which Eyton could find no modern equivalent. No more can I at present, but its presence here is desiderated for several reasons. With its figure, half hide, block 10 exactly balances block 2; and the district is brought up to a round figure, as the two fertines in Clevedon are a negligible quantity. Then there are a number of small holdings in this block, one of which, in Ridgehill, was already held by an Englishman. Finally Shepbwurda must be somewhere in the county.

Block 5 is broken up by the intervening mass of Wraxall, which apparently then included Nailsea, and forms block 4. These two blocks, however, mutually correct one another.

DISTRICT VIII.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	7.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Woodspring		9 1 .	Shipham ...		4 . .
Kewstoke ...		1 2 .	Cheddar ...	$2\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8}$	2 1 2
Worle ...		6 2 .	Draycot ...		. 1 .
Pantsheda .		. 2 .	Stoke Rod .		5 1 .
Milton ...	$1\frac{1}{2} + 1$	2 2 .	Weare ...		6 . .
			Badgworth .		2 . .
		20 1 .			19 3 2
2.			8.		
Ashcombe .	$2\frac{3}{4} + 3\frac{1}{2}$	6 1 .	Clewer ...		. 2 3
Uphill ...		6 2 .	Alston Sutt.		4 2 .
Hutton ...		5 . .	Chap. Aller.		11 . .
Elborough .		3 . .	Tarnock ...	$1 + 1$	2 . .
		20 3 .	Edingworth		2 . .
					20 . 3
3.			9.		
Bleadon ...		15 . .	Brent ...		20 . .
Loxton ...		5 . .			
		20 . .	10.		
4.			Wedmore ...		10 . .
Congresbury		20 . .	Bodeslega ...		1 . .
			Eachwick ...		. 1 $3\frac{1}{15}$
5.			Huish ...		. 2 .
Banwell ...		30 . .	Burnham ...		4 . .
Compt. Bish.	$5 + 4 + 1$	10 . .	Huntspil ...	$1 + \frac{3}{4}$	1 3 .
		40 . .	Alstone ...		1 . .
			Brean ...		2 . .
					20 2 $3\frac{1}{15}$
6.			TOTAL ...		221 3 $0\frac{1}{15}$
Winscombe .		15 . .			
Langford ...		5 . .			
		20 . .			

District VIII contains the hundreds of Winterstoke, Congresbury, and Cheddar (now all united under the first-named), Bempstone (less Cossington), and parts of Brent with Wrington, and Huntspill with Puriton. The total hidage amounts

to 221 $\frac{1}{4}$ hides, plus a fraction of a fertine, that is nearly two hides more than a round number. As this is the only district where the actual figures differ from the ideal by anything over a mere fraction, it is worth while to try and see if it can be explained. In the adjoining District IX, the total, if Eyton's figures be followed, comes to 200 $\frac{1}{8}$ hides. But Eyton (i, 175) points out in his notes on Locheslei hundred that probably the separate entry relating to Stawell two-and-half hides is redundant; and that the hidage of this vill, as of several others, had been already included in the thirty hides of Shapwick. If this be followed, then District IX will contain only 197 hides, 2 vir., 2 fer., the deficiency almost exactly balancing the overplus in District VIII, now under review.

The system of equalizing blocks, which has been noted several times already, appears to have been also applied to the districts on occasion.

From this surplusage it follows that the figures of the blocks will present a ragged appearance. Block 1 contains Milton, one-and-half hides, which Eyton considered to be Milton Clevedon (see note on District II); also "Pantesheda." The situation of this small vill had been left indeterminate by Eyton, with the remark that it would probably be found near Banwell. His extraordinary acumen in this department is amply confirmed by an entry in the twelfth volume of the Somerset Record Society, p. 67, *Pedes Finium*, 11 Ed. II, No. 28, "Ponteside juxta Bannewelle." I cannot, however, find any modern representative, unless it may be Puttingworth Farm, which is in an angle of the parish adjoining the other members of the block. Block 5 is made up of Banwell thirty hides; and separated from it by the curiously shaped parish of Winscombe, Compton Bishop, ten hides. Eyton put down three vills of Compton as indeterminate in regard to their identification, as they were all in the hands of lay owners temp. Domesday; and concluded that the present parish of Compton Bishop was then part of Banwell, as Churchill and

Puxton certainly were. But by this time one expects to find twenty-hide blocks; and as there are ten hides wanting to complete this block, and a parish of Compton handy, the three villis of Compton aggregating ten hides can be accommodated at once. Block 6: Langford is now superseded as a parish-name by Burrington. Block 10 appears to cover an enormous area, but at this time it was easily navigated; Brean is isolated by the intervening mass of Brent, block 9.

DISTRICT IX.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	5.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Butleigh ...	7½, 8, 2, ½	18 . .	Stretcholt .	½ + ½	1 . .
Lodreforda .		2 . .	Paulet ...		. 1 .
		20 . .	Walpole ...		. 3 .
			Puriton ...		6 . .
			Pegnes ...		1 1 .
			Crandon ...		. 2 .
2.			Sydenham .		. 1 .
Compton ...		5 . .	Cossington .		3 . .
Dundon ...		5 . .	Bawdrip ...		2 . .
Lega ...		4 . .	Horsey ...		2 . .
Ashcott ...	3 + 2	5 . .	Bradney ...		1 . .
		19 . .	Bower ...	½ + ¼	. 3 .
			Doneham ...		. 1 .
			Ham ...		1 . .
3.					20 . .
Walton ...		14 2 .			
Pedwell ...		3 . .			
Greinton ...		2 2 .			
		20 . .	6.		
			Huntworth .		1 . .
			Pether. chur.		. 3 .
			Newton ...	1½ 1¼ ¾ ½ ¼	4 . .
4.			Lyng ...		1 . .
Ham ...		17 . .	Durstun ...		2 3 .
Sowi ...		12 . .	Creech ...		10 2 .
Shapwick ...		30 . .			20 . .
		59 . .			

DISTRICT IX—continued.

7.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	8—continued.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Edgeboro. .		2 . .	Lexworthy .		. 3 .
Monkton ...		15 . .	Goathurst ...		1 3 .
Broomfield .		3 . .	Rexworthy .		. 1 .
		20 . .	Bower ...		. 2 .
			Durleigh ...		. 2 3
			Wembdon .		2 . .
8.			Chilton Trin.	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}$	1 1 .
Michaelchur.		. 2 .	Bridgewater		5 . .
Shurston ...	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$	. 3 .	Ulueroneton.		1 . 1
Melcombe ...		. 1 2	Cruce ...		. 1 .
Wolmersdon		. 3 2	Rima ...		. . 2
Hadworthy .		1 . .			
Hunstile ...		. 1 .			19 2 2
Halswell ...		1 . .			
Blaxhold ...		. 1 .	TOTAL ...		197 2 2
Enmore ...		1 . .			

District IX contains the hundreds of Ringoltdeswea and Locheslei (now united as Whitley), North Petherton, and Andersfield, together with the independent manors of Monkton, Creech St. Michael, and Ham. It also includes Cossington, which Eyton considered to be in Bempstone at this date. It was in Whitley 1242 A.D. (*S. R. S.*, xi, p. 256). I have omitted Pury Furneaux, containing four hides or thereabouts, and placed it for the nonce in District XII, block 1 (see notes on that block). The total in this District is 197h., 2v., 2f.; but the deficiency in the four blocks on the western side adjoining District XII is only 1 virg. 2 fert., which is almost exactly balanced by the overplus of 1 virg. $1\frac{13}{20}$ fert. in that district.

The deficit is therefore on the eastern side of the district. Now Ringoltdeswea hundred contains fifty-nine hides, one hide short; and curiously enough block 4, containing Ham seventeen, Sowi twelve, and Shapwick thirty, works out at fifty-nine hides, also one hide short; and this deficiency of

two hides practically balances the overplus of one-and-three-quarter hides in District VIII. This equation, however, depends on the omission of Stawell two-and-half hides. As I have already stated in the notes on District VIII, this entry is probably subsidiary to, and redundant of, the entry relating to the thirty hides of Shapwick. Its omission would reduce the total of Locheslei hundred from fifty hides and a half to forty-eight hides, as compared with forty-seven hides given in the Geld Inquest; but too much stress must not be laid on this apparently satisfactory result.

Blocks 2 and 3 are somewhat intermixed. It may be that Sedgmoor being a watery no-man's land at this time, the block containing Compton Dundon and Street could contain also Pedwell and Greinton, without encroaching on Walton. Block 4 simply contains the manors which it seems impossible otherwise to combine. The only point to be brought forward in its favour, perhaps, is that it exactly balances blocks 1-3. Block 5 contains a group of villis all situate, with the exception of Ham, on the right bank of the Parret, below Bridgwater.

As many of the villis are in the modern parish of Bridgwater, the map shows it as being in this block, although part with Chedzoy may have been reckoned in the five hides of Bridgwater. Eyton would identify Doneham with Dunball, but I think that Donwere is more probable, but in either case it is in this block. In block 8, Hattewara may be identified with Hadworthy in North Petherton; Hunstle is now a part of Goathurst. Idstock, another detached part of Chilton Trinity, will be found in District XII, under Cannington. Blaxhold, in Enmore, represents the Blachesalla of Domesday; and Rexworthy, in Durleigh, is Rachedeworde, identified by Eyton with Radway Fitzpayn, in Cannington. For these two identifications the reader is indebted to a note in *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries*, ii, 134. Cruce, Rima, and Ulveronetona are still to seek; the last is probably in Wembdon.

DISTRICT X.

1.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.	5.	H. V. F.	H. V. F.
Martock ...		38 . .	Chaffcombe .		5 1 .
in Martock .		2 . .	Cudworth ...		3 2 .
		40 . .	Ckt. Malerbe		3 . .
			Dowlish ...	4, 3, 2½	9 1 .
					21 . .
2.			6.		
Comp. Durv.		3 . .	Street ...		1 2 .
„ ablata de M.		1 1 .	Whatley ...		1 . .
ablata de Barr.		. 2 .	Leigh ...		3 . .
Stratton ...		2 . .	Chard ...		8 . .
sacerdos in			Litelande ...		2 . .
S.P. ...		1 . .	Whitstant.		3 . .
Wigborough		2 . .	Knw. S. Gil.		2 . .
Shept. Beau.		6 . .			20 2 .
Lopen ...	2, 1, 1	4 . .			
		19 3 .	7.		
			Comb.S. Nic.		20 . .
3.			8.		
Seavington .	7, 3, 2	12 . .	Hint. S. Geo.		13 . .
Kingstone...		8 . .	Merriott, pt.		7 . .
		20 . .			20 . .
			9.		
			Merriott, pt.		5 . .
4.			Crewkerne c.		10 . .
Dinnington .		3 . .	Eastham ...		2 . .
Crickt. S. Th.		6 . .	Seaborough .	1½ + 1½	3 . .
Winsham ...		10 . .			20 . .
		19 . .	TOTAL ...		200 1 .

District X contains the hundreds of Martock, South Pether-ton, Crewkerne, and Kingsbury East, excepting, however, Kingsbury itself. It also includes Kingstone, politically in Tintinhull hundred, but locally here; two hides in Martock, placed by Eyton in Yeovil hundred, and Cricket Malerbe temp. Domesday and since in Abdick and Bulstone. One of the manors called Dowlish is no doubt the prototype of West Dowlish adjoining Cricket, and like it now in Abdick and Bulstone, but Eyton ranges them all in South Petherton. Still these two manors may have formed a small cantle transferred from District X to XI. The total number of hides is 200 plus one virgate, which counterbalances a deficiency of the same amount in the adjoining District I. Further, there are two small vills placed by Eyton in this district: "*altera terra ablata de Martock*," one hide and a half; and "*ablata de South Petherton*," half hide. At first sight, these portions evidently belong somewhere here, and they certainly counterbalance a deficiency of two hides in District XI, block 4. But this block contains the parish of Buckland St. Mary; and down to this century, Dommett tithing in this parish was reckoned part of South Petherton; and another tithing called West-combland was supposed to be in Martock! This double coincidence may well be allowed to correct the silence of Domesday, and to replace the "*ablata*" in their original block.

There is not much to add to this explanatory note. Notice how the adjoining blocks 4 and 5 correct each other's totals. In block 6 is included Whitestanton, which is isolated by the large manor of Combe St. Nicholas. Litelande is part of Chard. Blocks 8 and 9 make up the hundred of Crewkerne, and here occurs, so far as I can see, the only case of placing parts of the same vill in different blocks to make up twenty hides apiece. One part of Merriott combines with Hinton St. George, and the other part with the rest of the hundred.

1. *Collinson*, i, 20; iii, 2.

DISTRICT XI.

	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.		H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.
1. Kingsbury				20	.	.	6. Isle Abbots	5 + 1½	6	2	.	.	.
							Isle Brewers	6 + 2	8	.	.	.	.
							Bradon ...	2, 1, 1, 1	5	.	.	.	.
2. Drayton ...				15	2	2					19	2	.
in Drayton				3	1	.							
La More ...				1	.	2							
				20	.	.	7. Ilton ...	6 + 2	8	.	.	.	.
							Puckington		3	.	.	.	.
							Whitelack.		10	.	.	.	.
3. Cur. Rivel c.				.	2	.					21	.	.
ablata de C.				.	1	.							
Earnshill ...	1 + ½			1	2	.							
Swell ...				3	.	.	8. Ilminster ...		20	.	.	.	.
Fivehead ...				1	2	.							
Cathanger...				1	2	.							
Curry Mallet	3½ + 3½			7	.	.	9. North Curry		20	.	.	.	.
Hatch Beau.				5	.	.							
				20	1	.							
4. Staple Fitzp.				10	.	.	10. Taunton ...		58	3	.	.	.
Bickenhall				5	.	.	Angersleigh		.	2	.	.	.
Buckl. S. M.	1½ + 1			2	2	.	Sampford ...		2	.	.	.	.
? Dommett				.	2	.							
? Westcombl.				1	2	.					61	1	.
				19	2	.							
5. Broadway ...				1	.	.	11. Thorne Falc.		6	.	.	.	.
Capland ...	1 + ½			1	2	.	Chedd. Fitz.	3½ + 2½	6	.	.	.	.
Ashill ...	5 + 2			7	.	.	Tetton ...		1	.	.	.	.
Beercrocom.				5	.	.	Norton Fitz.		5	.	.	.	.
Donyat ...				5	.	.	Ford ...		.	2	.	.	.
							Allerford ...		.	2	.	.	.
				19	2	.					19	.	.

DISTRICT XI—*continued.*

12.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.	13— <i>contd.</i>	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.
Stoke S. My.				2	.	.	Hillfarrance.				3	.	.
Thurlbeer ...				3	.	.	Oake ...				3	2	.
Pitminster...				15	.	.	Heathfield...				3	2	.
							Halse ...				4	.	.
				20	.	.					20	.	.
13.													
Heale ...				1	.	.	TOTAL ...				300	.	.
Bradford ...				5	.	.							

District XI contains the hundreds of Abdick and Bulestone, North Curry, and Taunton Dean, with the manors of Thurlbeer and Thorne Falcon, now part of North Curry. An isolated part of Taunton Dean is, however, included in District XII. Eyton also includes in Taunton Dean a part of Sampford Arundel in Milverton hundred, being led thereto by the fact that part of Sampford is locally situate in Pitminster (Coll., iii, 25). But it is rather doubtful if in such a case the part would be called Sampford also, as it is in Domesday. Three of the villas belonging to the earl of Chester in the county, are placed with a query by Eyton in Taunton Dean, and their hidage fits in so well as to confirm his suggestion. But in only one other instance is even a single hide belonging to one district found in another; and in this case, Whittox Meade, the circumstances are unusual (see notes on District IV). There is, however, no trace of a Sampford in the hundred; so one is thrown back on the idea that the name of the place has been changed. The name of the earl of Chester's tenant, Maubank, is often found in the early records of the county, but seems to be connected rather with Williton Freemanors. The case will be noticed again. Blocks 1-9 present no unusual features, as the two distinct villas in Buckland St. Mary have been treated of in the last District X. With regard to blocks 10-13, containing $120\frac{1}{4}$ hides, the presence of the huge

5, 6, and 7.

DISTRICT XII. ·

[illegible]

DISTRICT XII—continued.

3.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.	5.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.
Terra Olta .	.	1	.				Quantock E.	7	.	.			
Wdieta ...	.	3	.				„ W.	3	2	.			
Holcombe ...	.	1	.								10	2	.
Merridge ...	.	2	.				Perlestone .	.	2	.			
Tuxwell ...	.	1	.				Weacombe .	1	.	.			
„	.	.	2				Torweston .	1	2	.			
Plainsfield...	1	.	.				Woolston .	.	2	.			
Marsh Mill .	1	.	.								3	2	.
Radlet ...	.	3	3				Bicknoller .	.	2	.			
				5	0	1	Newton .	4	2	.			
Stowey ...	3	.	.								5	.	.
„	2	.	.										
„	.	3	.								19	.	.
„	.	1	.				Total of						
Fiddington .	4	.	.				blocks 1—	5			99	3	0 $\frac{2}{5}$
				10	.	.							
Newhall ...	.	1	.										
Holford ...	1	.	.										
„	.	2	.										
„	.	.	2				6.						
Stringston .	1	.	.				Bps. Lydiard				9	3	.
„	.	1	2				Bagborough	3 + 1			4	.	.
„	.	.	2				Ash Priors .				3	1	.
Dyc.&Alfox.	2	.	.				Lyd. S. Laur.	2 + 2			4	.	.
				5	1	2							
				20	1	3					21	.	.
							7.						
4.							Crowcombe .	4	.	.			
Lilstock ...	5	.	.				Cantoca .	.	1	.			
				5	.	.	Halsway .	.	3	.			
Kilton ...	10	2	.								5	.	.
				10	2	.	Willet ...	.	2	.			
Kilve ...	2	2	.				Elworthy ...	1	.	.			
Hill ...	2	0	.				Coleford ...	.	1	3			
				4	2	.	„	.	.	3			
							Hartrow ...	1	.	.			
							Stogumber .	2	.	.			
											5	0	2
							Monksilver .	2	2	.			
				20	.	.	Ayley .	.	2	.			

DISTRICT XII—continued.

7—contd.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.	9—contd.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.
Ulvertona ...	.	2	.				Bratton ...	.	3	.			
Capton ...	1	.	.				Woot. Court.	3	.	.			
				4	2	0	Eppsa ...	.	2	.			
Sampf. Brett	2	.	.				Sordemanneford	.	1	.			
Watchet ...											5	.	.
1, 1, 1	1	3	.				Timberscom.	1	2	1			
Ledford ...	.	2	.				Allarcott ...	.	.	2			
Imela & Oda	.	2	.				Donescombe	.	.	1			
Imela ...	.	2	.	5	1	.	Luxborough	2	.	.			
							Langham ...	1	.	.			
				19	3	2	Bickham ...	.	1	.			
											5	.	.
8.													
Bromp. Ral.	3	2	.								20	.	.
Clatworthy .	1	2	.										
				5	.	.							
Nettlecombe	2	3	.				10.						
Ludhuish ...	.	3	.				Selworthy .	1	.	.			
Beggarnhuis	1	2	.				Holnicote ...	.	2	2			
				5	.	.	"	.	2	2			
Old Cleeve .	4	1	.				Luccombe ...	3	.	.			
Goldsoncott.	.	2	.								5	1	0
Leigh ...	.	2	.				Porlock ...	3	.	.			
				5	1	.	Culbone ...	1	1	.			
Withycombe	3	.	.				Oare ...	1	.	.			
Rodhuish ...	.	1	.								5	1	0
Treborough .	.	2	.				Allerford ...	1	.	.			
Browne ...	1	.	.				Bossington .	1	.	.			
				4	3	.	Horner ...	1	.	.			
							Dover ...	.	1	.			
				20	.	.	Wilmersham	1	1	.			
							Stoke Pero .	.	.	2			
9.											4	2	2
Carhampton.	1	2	.				Cutcombe ...	3	.	.			
Dunster ..	.	2	.				Oaktrow ...	.	.	2			
Alcombe ...	1	.	.				Estaweit ...	.	1	.			
Stanton, 1, 1	1	.	.				Combe ...	1	.	.			
Avena ...	.	2	.				Combe ..	.	1	.			
Bradeuda ...	.	2	.								4	2	2
				5	.	.							
Minehead ...				5	.	.					19	3	.
Mena ...	.	2	.				TOTAL 6-10				100	2	2

DISTRICT XII—continued.

11.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.	13.	H.	V.	F.	H.	V.	F.
Exford ...	.	.	1				Tolland ...				2	.	.
" ...	.	.	1½				Wiveliscom.				15	.	.
" ...	.	.	2				Manworthy .				1	.	.
" ...	.	.	1				Bathealton .				2	.	.
" ...	.	.	1										
Bagley ...	.	.	2								20	.	.
Almsworthy .	.	1	.										
Estana ...	.	.	2										
Cibearda ...	1	.	.				14.						
Withypoole .	.	2	.				Pres. Bowyer	2	3	.			
Ashway ...	.	2	1				Torel's Pres.	1	.	.			
Hawkridge .	.	1	.				Milverton ...	.	1	1			
Brushford ...	2	.	.				"	.	.	2			
				5	0	3½					4	0	3
Winsford ...	3	2	.				Poleshill ...	1	.	.			
" ...	.	2	.				Wellisford ...	1	.	.			
Lege ...	1	.	.				Greenham ...	1	.	.			
				5	0	0	Kittisford ...	2	.	.			
Exton ...	3	.	1								5	.	.
Quarme ¾ + ½	1	1	.				Appley ...	1	.	.			
Broford ...	.	1	.				"	.	3	.			
" ...	.	.	1				Stawley ...	3	.	.			
				4	2	2					4	3	.
Dulverton ...	1	3	3½				Ashbrittle .				5	2	.
" ...	2	2	.										
Holland ...	.	1	.								19	1	3
Pixton ...	.	1	.										
Hawkwell ...	.	1	1½										
				5	1	0¾	15.						
				20	0	2¼	Runnington .	2	.	.			
							Tho. S. Marg	1	3	.			
							Samp. Arun.	1	.	3			
											4	3	3
12.							Wellington .				15	.	.
Brom. Regis				10	.	.							
Middleton ...	.	3	3										
Syndercomb.	1	.	.								19	3	3
Huish Cham.	2	3	.										
Chipstable .	2	2	.										
Raddington .	2	.	.										
Skilgate ...	1	1	.										
				10	1	3	TOTAL 11-15				99	3	3¼
				20	1	3	TOTAL OF DISTRICT .				300	1	1½¾

District XII, containing 300 hides, takes in an enormous area, stretching from the mouth of the Parret to Exmoor Forest. Within these bounds are the hundreds of Cannington, with one vill of North Petherton; Milverton, Williton Free-manors, and Carhampton. Sheriffs Brompton, Cutcombe and Minehead, Brompton Regis, and Cleeve were separate hundreds at this period, now absorbed in the two last-named. There are also parts of Kingsbury West and Taunton Dean. The holdings are very small, this being the only district in which the subdivision of the fertine is used to any extent. In addition to this element of uncertainty in arranging the blocks, there is the further difficulty that a considerable number of small villas are unidentified by Eyton, beyond being assigned to a particular hundred.

From these two causes some of the results must be looked upon as tentative and perhaps provisional. Without unduly pressing details, the blocks do appear to have certain geographical limits which help towards their delimitations. Of the first five blocks, containing 99h. 3v. 0½f., four of them are situate between the Parret and the summit of the Quantocks, the fifth covering the north-west shoulder of that range. The next five blocks, 100h. 2v. 2f., occupy the northern section of the district from Quantock to Devon; and the last five, 99h. 3v. 3¼f., the southern section, the boundary line running for part of the way along the ridge of the Brendon hills.

In the table I have arranged the small holdings in groups of five hides each, within the blocks, to bring out as far as possible the features of the five-hide-unit arrangement.

Block 1. Pury Furneaux temp. Domesday was in Wembdon, and therefore in North Petherton hundred. Pilloc, this is one of a group of six villas belonging to Roger de Corcelle, placed by Eyton (ii, 19) in Carhampton hundred, but with a suggestion that they might be in Cannington or North Petherton. He could not identify them then, but the proof positive

that one of them (Dodisham) is in Cannington, and that there is a Blackmore (Blackamora) in Cannington, enables me to transfer the other four to the same parts, and to point out that this fresh evidence is really a witness to Eyton's extraordinary skill in identification of Domesday manors. Dodisham in Cannington is mentioned in the Inq. P.M. of Walter Michel of Gournay Street, who died 20 Oct., 1487, seised of tenelements in Dodisham, Pegenesse, and Petherham; and also in the will of Richard Michell, proved 1563-4, "Dudisham in Cannington."¹ Blackmore is an old farmhouse in the same parish (*Proc.*, xliii, i, 38, and illustration). "Suinduna" may be Swang Farm. Idstock (Ichetocha), though described by Collinson as a part of Chilton Trinity in North Petherton hundred, is set down in the Proportion Roll, 1742, as forming with Beere in Cannington a separate tithing in Cannington hundred.

Block 2. Honibere is in Domesday "Hederneberia," left unidentified by Eyton; see account by Rev. W. H. P. Greswell, "Alien Priory of Stoke Courcy," *Proc.* xliii, ii, 66.

Block 3. "Wdieta" is one of the six returned villis of Roger de Corcelle; both terra Olta and Holcome belonged to him. The four sections of Stowey are reckoned by Eyton to belong exclusively to Nether Stowey. He thought that Over Stowey was then a part of Stockland Bristol. But this I venture to think was only the result of trying to make every hide contain so many acres of land, a belief from which Eyton could never shake himself free. Now it is very true that the hides of Stockland Bristol contained very few acres (eighty-seven), but they were not the smallest in Somerset; Weston-in-Gordano having only seventy-two acres to every hide, and four other villis in the county have less than 100 acres to each hide.

The Rev. W. H. P. Greswell makes the very probable suggestion that the portion of Stowey containing three vir-

1. *Brown, F.*, "Somerset Wills," vi, 3.

gates, which Dodo, an English Thane, held temp. Domesday, is really Dodington. The place does not appear in any of the early lists of villis, *e.g.*, Kirby, Nomina Villarum, Lay Subsidy, etc.; it is mentioned in an Assize Roll of Henry III; in 1335 the chapel of Dodington is described as being in the parish of Nether Stowey;¹ the list of rectors and patrons in Weaver begins only in 1473; so Dodington certainly appears as a rather late creation of a separate parish.

In block 5, I have entered Bicknoller as the modern equivalent of "Alra," left indeterminate by Eyton. Collinson derives the name from two British words signifying a "little treasury." This is indeed a little treasure of pre-scientific etymology, but not to be taken seriously at the present time. I cannot pretend to improve on it, but can only suggest that as there is ground for supposing that the first part of Bickenstoke in Chew hundred is a post-Domesday addition to the original name Stoke (see note on that place), that such may also have happened here to distinguish Alra from other villis of the same name. Bicknoller is Bykenalre, 1327, Bykennalre, 1284, Kirby's *Quest*. There are several places with this prænomen in the Devonshire Domesday. Newton, not identified by Eyton, is in the modern parish of Bicknoller, together with Woolston. Torweston, though in Sampford Brett, is on the same side of the stream as the other places in this block. Perlestona is Pardlestone farm in Kilve.

Block 7. Aili or Ailgi is placed by Eyton in Carhampton Hundred. He does not notice Collinson's statement that it is the modern Vellow (iii, 546). "Cotford land in Aylly," does seem a link with Catford in Stogumber. On the other hand, that this manor and land of Aylley were held of Elizabeth Lady Audley, points to Aley in Over Stowey as the locality, for this was the territory of that family (Collinson, iii, 552). Ulvertona has not yet been identified, but is placed by Eyton in Williton hundred.

1. Reg. Radulphi de Salopia, p. 239.

Block 9. Bradeuda may be Broadwood in Carhampton, behind Dunster park; and Mena may be East and West Myne near Bratton, in Minehead. Eppsa, Donescombe, and Sordmaniford are still unidentified. The last-named was given by William de Mohun and Reginald his son, *i.e.* before 1213, to Cleeve abbey. Shortmanisford is mentioned with Durborough (block 2) in a fine of 40 Hen. III, no. 168.

Block 10. Estaweit and the two Combes are not identified, the last necessarily so in a land which is all Combes: but Estaweit may be Stowey in Cutcombe (old Stowey and Stowey farm). If these identifications be admitted, the symmetry of the four parts of this block is peculiar, the two parts nearest the sea being equal, and the two upland parts also being alike in a curious fraction.

Block 11. Estana and Cibeurda, not hitherto identified, may be Stone and Chibbet in Exford. Eyton suggested this locality for Estana (ii, 20). Lega he placed in Carhampton hundred, but Leigh in Winsford would be adjacent to other holdings of de Moione. In the parish of Dulverton, on the borders of Devonshire, is Hawkwell, which I think is the Hawkella of Domesday, placed by Eyton in Norton Hawkfield in District V. There is also a Hawkwell in Cutcombe, but the one in Dulverton seems to have been the more important. In Domesday it belonged to two English thanes, so we get no help from that. Taunton Priory presented to the rectory of Havekewell in 1324 and 1327,¹ but not later; and as Dulverton rectory also belonged to them, the two rectories may have been amalgamated. Among the taxpayers in Dulverton manor, 1 Edw. III, is Richard de Hanckwelle, viiid.

Block 13. "Maneurda," not identified by Eyton further than being placed in this neighbourhood, is clearly Manworthy, as Maneworth is a separate vill in Kirby's *Quest*.

In these twelve Districts will be found the whole of Somerset

1. Reg. Bishop Drokenesford, S. R. S., i, 229, 267.

liable to the geld, with certain exceptions. The non-geldable portions are *ex necessitate* excluded. They may be divided into two classes, (1) the domains royal or ecclesiastical which have never been assessed in hides ; (2) a very few places of which it is recorded that though the hidage is known yet the geld was never levied. The second class are a small vill in Milborne Port, and another in Wearne near Langport.

The hidated portions which do not appear in the Districts are Bedminster hundred, six-and-half hides ; and in Frome hundred, Tellisford, five hides, and Farleigh (Hungerford), half hide ; total, twelve hides. These places cannot be fitted into any block of the Districts where they are situated, and their addition upsets the round figures to which the totals of the districts closely approximate. Now, after bringing into play every scrap of evidence available, in three Districts there were gaps, of which at the time nothing could be made. In District I, four-and-threequarter hides in blocks 12 and 14 ; in District III, two-and-quarter hides in block 15 ; in District IV, five hides in block 1 ; total twelve hides. I believe myself that this coincidence represents an effort to keep the sum total of the hidage in the county at the same figure, in spite of the appearance of fresh areas liable to the geld. Bedminster hundred may originally have been an exempt royal domain, of which certain portions having been granted out to subjects, forthwith became liable to geld. It is not so easy to account for the appearance of Tellisford and Farleigh. The Geld-Inquest for the hundred of Frome gives 298 hides, and Eyton's table of the hundred recovered from Domesday contains $303\frac{1}{2}$ hides, that is an increase of five-and-half hides. So it really looks as if in the interval between 1084 and 1086 these two vills had been added to the hundred, perhaps even to the county, and if anybody asks where from, one can only suggest Wiltshire. This must remain unsettled until the Wilts Domesday has been re-arranged in tables. Replacing the missing hides in the three Districts, the analysis presents these remarkable figures :

		H.	V.	F.			H.	V.	F.
District	I .	299	3	0	District	VII .	200	0	2
	„ II .	300	2	3 $\frac{1}{2}$		„ VIII .	221	3	0 $\frac{1}{15}$
	„ III .	300	0	0		„ IX .	197	2	2
	„ IV .	120	0	0		„ X .	200	1	0
	„ V .	300	0	0		„ XI .	300	0	0
	„ VI .	200	0	0		„ XII .	300	1	1 $\frac{3}{20}$
							2940	2	0 $\frac{11}{15}$

It is impossible to look at the total of each District, and avoid the conclusion, that whoever was responsible for fixing the figures, desired to have in Somerset a number of areas containing even hundreds, with, in two instances, an extra twenty hide block thrown in.

Perhaps at this point one ought to stop, having before one's mind Professor Maitland's warning,¹ that "microscopic labour is apt to engender theories which break down the moment they are carried outside the district in which they had their origin;" but as only a calculating machine could have gone through the work without producing something in the shape of a theory, I now proceed to offer some suggestions concerning these results, and further to try to hitch them on to any pegs in Anglo-Saxon history which seem able to give them a hold.

First of all it must be settled when the figures were last arranged. For the benefit of those who have not Eyton's analysis at hand, I must state that the totals of the hidage in each hundred in the Geld Inquests of 1084, and the totals of the hundreds as arranged by Eyton from Domesday, seldom agree exactly. Of the 2940 hides, 208 hides are in hundreds whose Inquests have been lost, 434 hides are in hundreds where the figures of either return agree, and the remaining 2298 hides are in hundreds where the figures vary. As a rule the Domesday figures are the higher, and the excess greater, than in the instances where the contrary results are found.

1. "Domesday and Beyond," p. 407. Cambridge, 1897.

The difference in some of the hundreds is quite a negligible quantity. In other cases the differences in adjoining hundreds counterbalance each other. The Domesday figures of Hareclive show an excess of two-and-quarter hides, the Domesday figures of Portbury show a decrease of two-and-quarter hides and two fertines. Bulestone has an excess of one virgate, Abdick a decrease of the same amount. Williton Freemanors has an excess of 3h. 0v. 3½f., Carhampton has a deficiency of 2h. 2v. 1f. The increase in the Domesday figures of Frome of five-and-half hides I have above considered to be due to an importation into the hundred. The large increase in Bruton hundred I have elsewhere¹ attributed to the inclusion of Queens Camel, which was in the Geld Inquest of 1084 treated for the nonce as "terra Regis," and so placed under a separate heading not now to be found. The excess of six-and-quarter hides in Givelea (Yeovil) hundred, is perhaps due to some entanglement with Coker hundred, of which the Geld has been lost (see notes on District I). There is only one case which seems for the present to be beyond explanation. Chewton has an excess of eight hides, Winterstoke 11h. 1v. 2f., Congresbury one hide, and Cheddar two fertines: a total of twenty-and-half hides; while Chew has a deficiency of one-and-half hides. These hundreds are very much intermixed, and the net result is an excess of nineteen hides. Ten hides of this total has been caused by the introduction of Compton (ten hides), which, though Eyton left unidentified, I consider to be Compton Bishop (see notes on District VIII). Eyton was puzzled by the great difference in the figures of Chewton hundred, and attributed the rise to an excess of zeal on the part of the Domesday Commissioners. I venture to offer a different explanation. Yatton (twenty hides), placed by Eyton in Chewton hundred, was undoubtedly at a period antecedent to Domesday, and also afterwards as late as the reign of Henry III, a separate hundred. May it not be that it was

1. "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries," v, 346.

also at this date, 1084-6, separate; though, its Inquest having been lost, as was often the case with the smaller areas, it has been included in one of the hundreds among which it was situate. If this could be supposed probable, the totals of the Domesday figures and those of the Geld Inquests, plus one for Yatton, would balance. If it was rated on nineteen hides instead of twenty, its full hidage, its case would be exactly similar to Congresbury, an adjacent manor rated at twenty hides, but paying geld on nineteen hides. The removal of Yatton from Chew hundred would result in a deficiency of twelve hides, as against an excess of eleven hides in Winterstoke. This could easily be got over if we can accept Eyton's suggestion that at this period, as he indeed shows over and over again, several manors were not in the hundreds where we afterwards find them. But which manor of Winterstoke hundred was at this period in Chewton I cannot settle.

This confession of ignorance does not affect the result that the Domesday figures differ from the Geld Inquest returns. Now as it is from the Domesday figures that the tables have been constructed, and the symmetrical results arrived at, which would have been impossible with the earlier figures of the Geld Inquest of 1084, it would seem to follow that this elaborate system was introduced in 1086, and not till then.

Eyton certainly believed that the Domesday figures were more modern than the Geld Inquest figures, but here I must differ from him. The very wording of the mighty return shows that the Domesday Commissioners were conducting an enquiry after an older state of things and hidage than that which was prevailing in their day. The assessment is always set down as that prevailing in the time of king Edward, that is before the Geld Inquests of 1084; and so I think that where there is a return made of a vill that T.R.E. it paid on a certain number of hides, but that there are really a larger number of hides there, the returns refer, not to a re-valuation made then and there, but to the older assessment which had

been alleviated T.R.E. This conclusion of course makes a decrease of hidage from king Edward's days to 1084, and such a shrinkage is taught by the history of the times. From the first reference to the number of hides in the Tribal List of 700, down to the latest collection of Danegeld, temp. Henry II, there is apparent a continuous decline in the number of hides liable to the levy. The disappearance of hides, a marked feature of Edward's reign, was evidently checked under William's rule, for not the lighter rate of the last of the Saxons, but the earlier figures, are required to make the Inquest totals, yet a certain leakage there was. The rate of decline varies in different counties ; in Somerset it is very small, in Wilts very large.

And may it not have been one of the objects of the Domesday Survey to stop this leakage? The royal commissioners, with the "stark" Conqueror in the background as the final court of appeal, might well compel the jurors to return the very uttermost fertine in their district, which custom may have allowed the native hundredors to pass over. The very smallness of the difference, fifteen hundreds showing an increase of twenty-eight hides in Domesday over Geld Inquest totals ; and six showing a decrease of eight hides, or a net difference of twenty hides in a total of 2298 hides (the figures of Givelea and Yatton, Bruton, and Frome are not included) shows how carefully the tax was collected, and perhaps the jealousy of the Conqueror, lest aught should escape the treasury : and we know in the words of the chronicler, that he was given to avarice and greedily loved gain.

So taking the evidence of Domesday itself, it seems probable that the figures of the hidage are older than the Conquest.

Eyton held in his Introductory Essay on the Dorset Domesday, that the assessment was made in the reign of Ethelred the Unready, of evil memory : being led thereto by the historical fact that the Danegeld was first paid in his reign.¹ In his own

1. "Chronicle," A.D. 991.

words, "When, in the days of king Ethelred (979-1016) the country was surveyed and subdivided for the purposes of equal taxation, the hide was accepted as the basis of assessment. Then, too, we may be sure, the hidage of most counties, and of Dorset among the rest, was scrutinized and readjusted; then the lands were not measured indeed, still less re-measured, but were so divided and parcelled as to bring one hide into fair comparison with another. And here again the hide virtually, though not designedly, assumed still more the seeming of an areal measure."

That statement seems to be self-contradictory. There is no equal size in the hide after his reign, nor equal value either.¹ There is no historical evidence that Ethelred, or his wise men either, did or could have made a re-survey of the country. That the number of hides in any vill was not necessarily altered at this date, has been well brought out by the Rev. C. S. Taylor, vicar of Banwell,² who has utilized the evidence of Anglo-Saxon charters to show that when the subject of a charter can be identified with a Domesday vill, the chances are that though the charter may be hundreds of years older than Ethelred, the vill will have the same number of hides.

Now there are still in existence three ancient lists of hides in England, which are known as the County Hidage, c. 1000; the Burghal Hidage temp. Edward the Elder, c. 920; and the Tribal Hidage, c. 700, according to the different headings under which the hides are given. The first one, unfortunately, does not include Somerset. But the Chronicle gives, among the many futile plans of Ethelred the Unready's wise men, a fiscal device, which seems to bear out my arrangement of the hundreds in great districts containing 200 to 300 hides apiece. The entry is under the year 1008 A.D. "As the text of the majority of our authorities stands, every 300 and ten hides were

1. See "Appendix."

2. Pre-Domesday Hide of Gloucestershire; *Transactions of Bristol and Glouc. Arch. Soc.*, vol. xvii.

required to build and equip a ship of war. One text reads, from three hundred a ship and from ten a skiff," *i.e.* a smaller vessel. There is an absence of subject to the figures, but if we might read in "hides," as in most texts, the first part of this primeval levy of ship money fits in with the figures of the larger districts.¹

As to the districts containing 200, and in one case 220 hides, it is noticeable that they are, with one exception, grouped together in the middle of the county. If it be allowed that Bath Forum, District IV, was at this period in the county, then IV, V, VI would make a total of 620 hides, an assessment of two big ships and two little ones; and Districts VII, VIII, IX would yield an equally symmetrical result. District X is, however, unconformable, unless it may have been combined with other districts in the neighbouring county of Dorset. As far as a small effort to group the hundreds in the western part of Dorset went, it produced two districts of 200 hides apiece.

It is of course quite likely that in a time of such universal distress and danger, provincial boundaries may have been disregarded in favour of the efforts aforesaid, efforts which seemed as hopeless as those of a "hag-rod" dreamer to get rid of his nightmare. But this suggestion must await a fresh analysis of the Dorset Domesday. The city of Bath we know had no assessment of hidage in the gift of king Osric.

As regards the extra twenty hides in District VIII, they may also emphasize the fact that at the date of the original assessment either Yatton (twenty hides), or Congresbury (twenty hides), had, like Bath, an immunity. But the figures of the second authority to be quoted make this twenty hides of longer standing in the Geld-rate of Somerset. The document called the Burghal Hidage gives a list of Burghs in southern

1. *Ramsay*, "Foundations of England," i, 360, and n. "For the assessment of one ship on three hundreds, Mr. C. Plummer has called my attention to the disputed charter of Eadgar, *Cod. Dip.*, vi, p. 240, where three hundreds appear to be given as a normal 'scyp-fylled,' or 'scyp-socne.'" And *Freeman*, "Norm. Conq.," i, 647, n. 11.

and south-western England, and after each name the number of hides which were supposed to belong to it. Professor Maitland (p. 502) considers that its age, at the latest, is that of Edward the Elder, 901-925, one hundred years earlier than our last halting place; and that it is a system of military defence; fortified strongholds (no need to say against what enemy) to be supported by the surrounding country. Of Burghs in Somerset we have: To Watchet (Weced), 513; to Axbridge (Axanbrige), 400; to Lyng (Lenge), 100; to Langport, 600; to Bath, 3200; total, 4813 hides. Now as in Domesday Somerset only contained 2940 hides, and Bath 120 hides was part of Mercia at this date, 2820 hides must either denote a marvellous shrinkage, or the presence of a disturbing element in the earlier total. This element is, I think, to be found in the figures relating to Bath. Professor Maitland (p. 456) thinks that these figures included the hidage of Gloucestershire. The totals of the hidage of that county vary in the old lists; if one may take the total of 2000, as given in one list, there are left 1200 hides supporting Bath, which are to be looked for in Somerset, and the total for the county burghs is 2813 hides, marvellously near the 2820 hides of Domesday.

Districts VII and VIII, with 420 hides, may have been allotted to the support of Axbridge 400 hides. Districts I, II, III, V, containing 1200, stretch upwards to Bath, requiring that number. Langport 600 may have been supported by Districts VI, IX, X, 600 hides, though it actually is situated in District II; and District IX contains Lenge. Districts XI and XII, 600 hides, may fairly well support Watchet 513 and Leng 100=613 hides.

But the districts and the burghs do not sort well together, though the totals agree; and I think that we must appeal to the still earlier document for the conditions under which the districts were formed and in actual service.

This document is called the Tribal hidage list, because the hides are arranged, not under counties as in the latest list, nor

under the fortified burghs, but under the names of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and tribes. It is generally considered by authorities to have been drawn up about 700 A.D.

Now the totals of the hides of each tribe are given in round numbers, of which the lowest unit is 300 hides, rising by multiples to 600, 900, and 1200, after which number the figures rise by thousands to an incredible point. One of the smallest units of 300 hides is allotted to a place called Gifla, which is the same as Gifle, the Anglo-Saxon form of Yeovil. The late Mr. Kerslake had already spotted this identification of Gyfla, and made use of his discovery to argue that this district of Gifle, with its 300 hides, was a primitive "seir" or shire, a portion cut off from the British territory by the English victory at Pen, in 658, when Kenwalk drove the Britons to the Parret. But I have already been able to reunite the hundreds of Givela (Yeovil), Coker, and Milborne into one district (No. I) containing 300 hides, extending from Pen to the Parret, of which district Yeovil is the centre. If it be conceded that the scene of the battle was not Penselwood, in Norton Ferris hundred, but Poyntington, in Milborne hundred, then we should have in one well-defined district the site of the battle, the whole of the area won by the conquerors, the chief town or burgh of the district; and last, and perhaps for our present purposes most important of all, the number of hides at which the new community was assessed in the fiscal arrangements of the West Saxons' kingdom.

Further than this point the figures and theories cannot be carried. As they stand I submit them to the criticism of all who are interested in the history of the Anglo-Saxon race.

It may seem incredible that an assessment made c. 700 A.D., should last down to 1066. But the writer of this paper is in this year of grace paying firstfruits on an assessment made in

1. Wessex is entered in this list, so Gifle, as Professor Maitland has pointed out to me, must be a reiteration; but the totals of the larger areas are so outrageous, that the two sets of figures cannot be treated on the same basis.

1538, and land tax according to figures settled in the reign of William III. So the English may well have continued to pay taxes on the old figures, until the arrival of the feudal system with William I. It does seem that the double entries of values in Domesday point to some indication on the Conqueror's part to introduce a new assessment. His troubles and death within two years would throw back the whole scheme of reform, for the Conqueror's bow was not the only part of his equipment which no other man possessed, so the reform was deferred until the reign of Henry II, when the Danegeld finally gave place to other systems of taxation.

It may be objected that having brought out the five-hide-unit I have made nothing of it. But the unit is so connected with questions relating to tenure of land and military service, not only in England, but also on the Continent, that a discussion in a local survey would be out of place.

APPENDIX.

To make it still clearer that neither the hide nor the team-land, "*terra ad carucam*," was a fixed area, I have arranged District I in tabular form, showing for each civil parish the number of hides (and carucates) of team lands, the value when each holder received his share of the spoil, and the modern acreage. Also in two other columns the number of acres in each hide and its value.

Mr. Round's researches have definitely decided in the negative the ancient problem as to whether the hide was ever intended to have a fixed area. Mr. Eyton's view that the team-land was precisely 120 acres must needs be answered in the same way. In Professor Maitland's own words (*Domesday and Beyond*, p. 431), "For Mr. Eyton the team-land was pre-

cisely 120 of our statute acres. The proof offered of this lies in a comparison of the figures given by Domesday, with the superficial contents of modern parishes. What seems to us to have been proved is that, if we start with the proposed equation, we shall rarely be brought into violent collision with ascertained facts, and that, when such a collision seems imminent, it can almost always be prevented by the intervention of some plausible hypothesis about shifted boundaries or neglected wastes. More than this has not been done. Always at the end of his toil the candid investigator admits that when he has added up all the figures that Domesday gives for arable, meadow, wood, and pasture, the land of the county is by no means exhausted. Then the residue must be set down as "unsurveyed" or "unregistered," and guesses made as to its whereabouts. Then, further, this method involves theories about lineal and superficial measurements which are, in our eyes, precarious."

DISTRICT I.

	Hides.	Team-lands.	Value.			Acres.	Acres to one hide.	Value of one hide.		
			£	s.	d.	Acres.	Acres.	£	s.	d.
Sutton Bingham.	5	5	5	.	.	556	111	1	.	.
Corton Denham .	7	7	7	.	.	} 1392	116	.	18	4
Whitcombe ...	5	4	4	.	.					
Norton-sub-Ham.	5	5	5	.	.	632	126	1	.	.
Thorne Coffin ...	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	5	2	10	.	413	127	.	15	4
Perrott, North .	10	8	7	.	.	1280	128	.	14	.
Sock Dennis ...	5	7	4	.	.	688	138	.	16	.
Stoke-undr.-Ham	10	13	12	.	.	1380	138	1	4	.
Templecombe ...	13	13	16	.	.	} 1910	138	1	4	3
Turnie ...	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	.	14	.					
Brympton ...	3	4	2	.	.	} 576	144	.	12	6
Houndston ...	1	1	.	10	.					
Closworth ...	7	6	7	.	.	1082	155	1	.	.
Charl. Horethorn.	15	16	24	.	.	2380	158	1	12	.
Chisselborough .	5	5	3	.	.	797	159	.	12	.

DISTRICT I—continued.

	Hides.	Team-lands.	Value.			Acreage.	Acres to one hide.	Value of one hide.		
			£	s.	d.	Acres.	Acres.	£	s.	d.
Trent... ..	7	5	•8	.	.	} 1618	161	1	.	6
Adber	3	3	2	5	.					
Chinnock, West .	4	4	3	.	.	} 1160	166	1	.	.
„ Mid .	3	3	4	.	.					
Montacute... ..	9	7	9	3	.	1516	168	1	.	4
Cheriton, North .	5	5	4	.	.	857	172	.	16	.
Chilthorn. Domer	6	7	5	.	.	} 1397	175	.	18	9
Oakley	2	—	2	10	.					
Ashington... ..	3	3	2	.	.	529	176	.	13	4
Horsington ...	11	10	8	15	.	} 3130	184	.	16	2
S. Cheriton ...	6	6	5	.	.					
Sandford Orcas .	6	6	8	.	.	1104	184	1	3	4
Limington... ..	7	8	7	.	.	} 1684	187	.	17	9
Draicote	2	3	1	.	.					
Henstridge ...	14	19	28	.	.	4255	193	1	5	5
(carucates)	8									
Chinnock, E. ...	7	7	12	.	.	1360	194	1	14	3
Marston Magna .	7	7	12	.	.	1392	198	1	14	3
Mudford	12½	12	10	.	.	} 2897	200	.	13	5
Stone... ..	2	1½	.	10	.					
Rimpton	5	5	6	.	.	999	200	1	4	.
Hasel. Plucknett	10	8	8	.	.	2083	208	.	16	.
Odcombe	5	5	5	.	.	1119	223	1	.	.
Pendomer	5	5	2	.	.	1114	223	.	8	.
Coker	15	15	19	1	.	3604	240	1	5	4
Hardington ...	10	10	12	14	.	2667	268	1	5	4
Tintinhull... ..	7¼	10	10	.	.	2083	287	1	7	7
Lufton	1	1	.	12	.	297	297	.	12	.
Goathill	1	2	1	.	.	298	298	1	.	.
Stowell	3	4	2	.	.	903	301	.	13	4
Preston	2	1	.	15	.	769	384	.	7	6
Poyntington ...	2½	3	1	10	.	1020	408	1	.	.
Yeovil	8	8	9	10	.	} 4219	421	1	3	.
Lyde	2	2	2	.	.					
TOTAL ...	296½	295	311	19	0	57,160	Avr. 193	1	1	0

Yeovil had a little "imperium in imperio" in its midst, "twenty-two tenants holding in paragio," but it is not likely that their united territory was so large as to require a great deduction of acres, and a consequent diminution in the size of the hide. Henstridge had, in addition to its hides, eight carucates, which Mr. Eyton considered to be the expression for hides no longer liable to the geld. On the other side, I have not included Barwick, of which nothing more is known than its hidage; nor the figures relating to Ilchester and Milborne Port, as they can only refer to small portions of the royal domains. The team lands for Oakley are wanting. If its hidage be subtracted, the number of hides and team lands in the district will be the same to a fraction.

I also give the averages contained in the last two columns of the table for all the districts, with the warning that the figures are to be taken "subject to a final audit."

[illegible]

Notes on Ancient British and Romano-British Remains,

**DISCOVERED IN THE TYNING AND KILMERSDON ROAD
QUARRIES AT RADSTOCK.**

BY J. MC MURTRIE, F.G.S.

DURING the Autumn and Winter of 1897-8, the writer's attention was called to a remarkable series of remains which had been found by the workmen at the Tynning quarry, near the South-Eastern boundary of the parish of Radstock, and early in the present year it was his good fortune to make a farther discovery in a new quarry then being opened out in the Kilmersdon road, about a mile to the South-West of Tynning, the remains being of a still more varied and interesting character.

Without making any pretension to special knowledge on the subject with which the paper deals, he would desire to bring under the notice of the members of this society, and to place on record in its proceedings, the facts connected with a discovery which may throw some light on the early history of the races which formerly inhabited the country around Bath.

I. TYNING QUARRY.

The scene of the first discovery was about half-a-mile to the East of Radstock Station, and in order to explain its geological position, the attention of the members is directed

to a section of strata running North and South through Tynning Pit, which may be considered a typical section of the strata met with on the surface in this central area of the Somersetshire coal basin.¹ It shews in the upper part of the section the Inferior Oolite which occupies all the higher ground to the East of Radstock.

Below this formation lies a series of Lias shales of considerable thickness, with occasional layers of coarse stone, the shales having been used extensively here and elsewhere in brick making, and next in descending order comes the Lias quarry, from which stone has been quarried for many years for local purposes. It may be briefly said that below the superficial covering, which will presently be referred to in detail, lies about 6 feet in thickness of the Lower Lias, followed by the Rhætic White Lias and Black Marl which form the basement beds in the Tynning quarry. Then follow, in the usual order, the Keuper Marls or New Red Sandstone, and the Coal Measures, but neither of these formations have any bearing on the subject of the present paper.

It was in the ordinary course of quarrying operations in the Tynning quarry during the Autumn of 1897, that the workmen met with the first series of remains to which the attention of the Members will now be invited. It has already been pointed out that immediately above the regular beds of the Lias, there occurs here, as elsewhere in the Radstock district, a superficial deposit of varying thickness, known locally by the workmen as the "ruckle of the Lias," consisting of loose débris, evidently derived from the Lias rocks in the immediate locality, which has been deposited in a brown clayey earth, probably when the land about here was last submerged. It contains irregular fragments of Lias, mostly thin and water worn, which have been deposited in a semi-stratified order, and in which fragments of Belemnites and other Liassic fossils are frequently found.

1. This section is not given.

In this particular quarry the thickness of the deposit is about 4 feet, and, according to their usual practice, the quarrymen were engaged in removing it in order to uncover the solid beds of rock which lay beneath, when they suddenly came upon a total change in the deposit which attracted their attention. Instead of the ordinary Lias débris intermixed with brown clay or earth, they discovered what had evidently been an ancient excavation of a very unusual character, the infilling consisting of ordinary dark surface soil, intermixed with a variety of ancient remains which form the subject of the present paper.

The enlarged section of this part of the quarry will explain the position of this excavation, which was rudely circular in form, its dimensions being about 4 feet in depth by 4 feet in diameter. Its sides were not walled round in any way, but there was no difficulty in distinguishing it from the adjoining strata in which it had been excavated. It will be observed that it had only been carried down to the bottom of the Liassic débris, the bottom of the hole resting on the solid beds of the Lias. It is greatly to be regretted that the quarrymen did not cease operations as soon as they met with these remains, and that the writer's attention was not called to them at once, but they probably did not recognise the importance of their discovery until some of the more striking objects were met with, so that some of the contents were seriously damaged and others probably lost. Sufficient, however, was preserved to show that the excavation and subsequent infilling were of a very ancient character, the contents of which the writer will now endeavour to describe.

Ancient Quern.—Prominent amongst the contents of the pit which has been described is the Quern now exhibited, which was found associated with the principal finds within a few inches of the bottom of the pit. (*See Plate A, Figs. 1 and 2.*) It will be seen that only the upper half of the Quern has been found, diligent search having failed to discover the

PLATE A.—

REMAINS FROM
TYNING QUARRY,
RADSTOCK.

Underside.



1

QUERN :
UPPER STONE.

Upperside.



2

SPINDLE WHORL.



3

TRITURATING STONE
AND
RUBBER.



4

other half ; but its place has been supplied by an approximate model in wood, based on examples which are to be seen in the museum at Glastonbury, where nearly twenty Querns, or parts of Querns, were found in the ancient British village discovered by Mr. Arthur Bulleid, to whom, and to his father, the writer is indebted for much useful information on the subject. In the present instance the portion of the Quern found is a good example of its kind, comparing favourably with the specimens in Bath and Glastonbury, from which it differs in several respects to which attention will now be drawn.

One of these distinctions is in the mode by which the handle was attached to the stone, which in most of the Querns the writer has seen was by means of a hole bored in an oblique direction in the upper half of the stone ; but it will be observed that in the example now submitted, the mode of attachment has been by means of a dove-tailed groove, extending from the rim of the stone to what I will venture to call the grain hopper in the centre, the handle fitting in, as shewn in the example which I have had made, which will, at all events, serve to explain the principle. It will be observed that the stone stands higher on the side containing the groove, no doubt to give the handle a better hold. One of the Glastonbury specimens is of this construction, but in that case the dove-tail does not extend through to the grain hopper, stopping short by an inch.

It may here be remarked that this Quern appears to be almost an exact counterpart in all respects of one found during the recent excavations at Silchester, a drawing and description of which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* of 17th June, the only difference being that the Silchester specimen still retained its original wooden handle, notwithstanding the lapse of 2,000 years.

These Querns are supposed to have been fixed in shallow wooden boxes, into which the meal or flour produced dropped on leaving the stones, but what kind of article was thus pro-

duced, or what kind of grain was chiefly treated by such mills, we can only conjecture.

In this, as in the Glastonbury examples, it is difficult to identify the geological formation from which the stone has been obtained, which could only be solved by breaking up the specimen.

In comparing the Quern with a modern Indian example in the Bath museum, the writer could not fail to be impressed with the fact that the human intellect is much the same in all generations, and that the same primitive conditions beget primitive contrivances in half civilized nations now, as in the ages long since passed away.

The Spindle Whorl.—The specimen found in the Tynning quarry, and now exhibited, is a good example of another early contrivance which was in common use amongst our ancestors in the ancient British and Romano-British age. (See Plate A, Fig. 3.) It was used in spinning yarn, a short rod being fixed in the hole in the centre and held in one hand, while with the other the early craftsman or craftswoman made the whorl spin round, giving the requisite twist to the yarn. The same remark which I have already made about the hand mills, ancient and modern, would appear to be equally applicable here, for the natives of Zanzibar are said to use a very similar contrivance to this day, the native women, with their younger children strapped on their backs, deftly spinning their yarn from materials which are contained in a pouch on the shoulder.

These spindle whorls seem to have been made from whatever came to hand, and are of all kinds of materials, some being made from the stones of the locality, some from pottery, and others, according to Professor Boyd Dawkins, being of lead, while in one example at Glastonbury the primeval spinner has made use of a small ammonite, thus constituting himself or herself one of the earliest collectors in that department of geology with which we are so familiar in this district.

In the specimen now exhibited the material is White Lias, which outcrops on the slopes of the adjoining ground.

Black Pottery.—It is greatly to be regretted that this part of the find came into the writer's hands in a fragmentary condition. From the statements of the quarrymen the pottery was broken when discovered, and it probably received further damage during its removal from the pit, so that only three of the pieces found will join together; but the specimens now submitted are sufficient to show the nature of the pottery, which is of a coarse description, indicating a very early date. It was probably hand made, and the clay from which it was formed has evidently been mixed with shells which Professor Boyd Dawkins pronounces to be recent, and amongst which he recognises the cockle.

What the shape or use of this particular article of pottery may have been there is not sufficient to show, but it is possible that if it had been examined before it was disturbed, it might have been found to contain some evidence of burial by cremation. Those who have had the advantage of comparing them will doubtless observe that these fragments are very similar in their character to much that has been found in the ancient British village near Glastonbury.

Flint.—No weapon of flint or other material was discovered in the course of the excavation, but one small fragment of flint was found, which looks like a splinter which might have been knocked off in making an implement.

Burnt Pottery Earth, Stones and Charcoal.—All through the infilling there occurred fragments of pottery earth or clay burnt red, rocks of various kinds bearing marks of fire, some of which do not belong to the locality in which they are found, and interspersed throughout the mass were fragments of charcoal, specimens of all these being submitted for examination.

Iron Nail.—The only metal found in the pit was a fragment of iron, thickly coated with rust, which may have been a nail; but it is just possible it may have occurred near the surface,

and that it may not be of the same antiquity as the rest, although there would be nothing inconsistent in its being found amongst such surroundings.

. *Bones and Teeth.*—The bones, which are not very numerous altogether, were found in a more or less fragmentary state, and were still further damaged by the finders, but in the opinion of Professor Boyd Dawkins, who has kindly examined them, some of them at least are the bones of Red Deer, and the teeth he has pronounced to be those of the Sheep or the Goat. Mr. Arthur Bulleid has also detected on some of them marks of having been gnawed by other animals.

Snail Shells.—Interspersed throughout the infilling were innumerable snail shells, mostly of one species, of which a few specimens are now submitted in an excellent state of preservation, considering how fragile they are, their pure white colour shewing no marks of fire. Their presence throughout the infilling is all the more striking by contrast with their total absence from the adjoining strata, and their good preservation and white colour would go to prove, either that the burnt earth and rocks must have been exposed to fire before they were thrown into the pit, or that the snails must afterwards have found their way down amongst the loose materials forming the deposit.

It at first occurred to the writer whether they might have been the shells of snails which had been eaten by the early inhabitants who formed the pit, just as they are occasionally found within the precincts of ancient encampments, but he has since been informed that they are not edible snails, so that this idea must be put aside. It may be mentioned, on the authority of Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, that similar shells have been found amongst the interments in the grave mounds of Derbyshire.

Nos. 2 and 3 Pits.—Shortly after the discovery of the first refuse pit, the contents of which have just been described, the writer was much gratified to learn that the quarrymen had met with two other refuse pits of a similar character and in the same quarry.

One of these (called No. 2) was met with about 20 feet to the North of the one referred to in the Paper, and was in the form of an elbow, the total length excavated being 12 feet, by 4 feet in width and 4 feet in depth. The other, which occurred about 13 feet to the North-East of the No. 2 pit, was more like the one first discovered, being rudely circular in form, and its dimensions being 4 feet in diameter, by 3 feet 6 inches in depth. The infilling of both consisted of much the same material as has already been described, being surface mould mixed with fragments of charcoal and burnt earth and stones, together with various articles of ancient British age.

These additional finds included, amongst other things, three jaws of animals with the teeth attached, five loose teeth, one boar's incisor, and a large number of bones more or less fragmentary, some of them being of larger size than those first met with, and many of them having been rudely split longitudinally probably to obtain the marrow, but they have not been examined by an expert and it cannot yet be stated to what animals they belonged.

The following specimens were of such special interest as to call for individual notice.

Pottery.—About forty additional fragments of Pottery were found, embracing three different varieties of a coarse description, some being black and others red, and some of the specimens having a projecting moulding, which may have been the upper edge or rim of an ancient British vessel.

Triturating, or Rubbing Stone.—This very interesting specimen found in the No. 2 pit, measures 9 inches by 8 inches by 6 inches in thickness, the material being millstone grit, which must have been obtained from the flank of the Mendips, near Vobster, as that is the nearest point where it is found *in situ*. (See Plate A, Fig. 4.) In a different part of the same pit the rubber belonging to this stone was also found, being an oval pebble resembling those found in the Chesil Beach, about three inches in length, and worn perfectly smooth, as it would

naturally be, considering the purpose for which it was used. A slab of Lias was also found bearing marks of rubbing, but not fashioned after the manner of the tritulating stone, and one or two smaller pebbles which may have been used either as rubbers or sling stones.

Tooth.—One of the teeth, which has been pronounced to be a dog's canine tooth, measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, and the fang end presents an appearance of having been polished, but whether used as an ornament or an implement can only be surmised.

These interesting discoveries have not yet been fully explored, but they go to confirm the view expressed by Mr. Bulleid, of Glastonbury, that the pit first met with formed part of an ancient British village or settlement, and that more extended excavations would doubtless lead to fresh discoveries.

Such being a summary of the principal contents of these pits, it may now be considered by whom and in what age they were probably formed, and what purpose they were intended to serve.

In considering these questions the writer would offer no opinion of his own, but would rather express the views of Professor Boyd Dawkins and Mr. Arthur Bulleid whose opinions he has already quoted, and to whom he would take this opportunity of expressing his great obligation for much useful help in connection with the present paper.

In the opinion of the former the whole group belongs to the Prehistoric Iron age, and may probably have belonged to a mining (or other) camp in connection with the Glastonbury lake village. He remarks that coarse pottery of the description here met with occurs in Neolithic and Prehistoric Iron finds, and not in Roman accumulations, and that the Quern is in his opinion also of Prehistoric Iron age.

Mr. Arthur Bulleid agrees with Professor Boyd Dawkins that the bones and teeth were those of sheep and deer. He says he has little doubt that the pit discovered is one of the refuse holes so frequently found in or about Romano-British settlements, that these pits range from four to ten feet deep, and when filled up were often made second use of for graves. He believes there must have been a habitation or a village not far distant, and that this interesting find may be only the beginning of more important discoveries.

The adjoining land having formerly been under cultivation, there was nothing on the surface to indicate the presence of these pits, and there are no surface indications to aid in the search for others if such exist ; but, it may be mentioned, that a large number of similar pits were found by General Pitt Rivers in his extensive excavations in Rushmore Park, as set forth in his valuable books on excavations in Cranborne Chase, for a perusal of which the writer is indebted to the Rev. H. H. Winwood.

In considering the probable age and history of these ancient remains from Tynning quarry, it may be useful to refer to other antiquities which exist in the surrounding district, in order to see whether they may possibly throw light upon each other.

For the benefit of those who may not be acquainted with the locality, it may be explained that the parish of Radstock is bounded on the North-West for nearly two miles of its length by the great Roman Road leading from Cirencester through Bath to Ilchester. Near the North-Eastern end of the parish, and adjoining the Fosse Road, is a Barrow of large dimensions, believed to be of Roman age, and said to have been opened by Skinner, of Camerton, who found in the adjoining field traces of a Roman town, shewn on the earlier ordnance maps, which he sought to identify with Camulodunum or Colchester. The refuse pits which have now been described are situated at a distance of 1,200 yards as the crow flies, from this Roman road and Barrow, but as nothing of Roman age has been found at

Tynning there appears to be nothing to connect it with these relics of antiquity.

In Wellow Parish, however, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant, there exists a large cellular grave mound of Celtic age, and it will be remembered that not far distant are the remains of the ancient Wansdyke. The relics found at Tynning, therefore, meagre as they are, may have been contemporary with these ancient remains as well as with the Glastonbury lake village, and they may form a link in the early history of this part of Somersetshire.

II. KILMERSDON ROAD QUARRY.

It having become necessary to open a new quarry on the Radstock Estate, an excavation was commenced during the Autumn of last year in the upper corner of what is now known as the Jubilee field, near the southern boundary of the parish, and adjoining the road leading to Kilmersdon. The parish of Radstock is intersected by six valleys which radiate from the centre of the town, and the field in question, which seems at one time to have been part of the Huish Common, forms a promontory at the junction of the Charlton and Haydon valleys, the new quarry being 1,320 yards to the South-West of the Tynning quarry already described.

On the summit of this promontory, overlooking the two valleys and the adjoining country, stands a tumulus of no great size, but unmistakable in its character, affording evidence of an ancient British or Roman settlement in the immediate locality.

It has the appearance of having been opened, possibly by Skinner of Camerton, whom I have already alluded to, who devoted much time and research to the investigation of Roman antiquities in this locality; but, if opened, no record of its contents appears to have been kept.

Skirting the lower side of this field, there are appearances of earthworks, which are deserving of attention. So far

as the writer is aware, they have never been recognised as such, but they have every appearance of having formed part of some ancient fortification. There would seem to have been two lines of earthwork in the lower or North-East corner of the field, diminishing to one bank higher up, and although these earthworks correspond with the line of a cart track, which formerly crossed the Common towards Kilmersdon, before the present road was made, they are evidently not mere road banks, but something of more ancient date.

Another well defined line of earthwork, forming nearly a right angle with the first, lies on the North side of the Jubilee field, and just over the hedge which separates it from the adjoining field.

The accompanying large scale diagram will explain the locality in question, on which the quarry is marked A, the tumulus B, and the supposed fortification C and D respectively, while another diagram, on a smaller scale, shows their relative position to the other objects of antiquity already mentioned.¹ The distance, as the crow flies, from this tumulus to the much larger one at Woodborough being 1,936 yards, and from the Roman Road, forming the Northern boundary of Radstock, 1,166 yards.

The geological structure of this new quarry is exactly similar to that of Tynning, the solid beds of Lias being overlaid by a corresponding deposit of surface soil and Liassic débris, which are here about 6 feet in thickness. The earliest finds in this second discovery consisted chiefly of pottery and bones, which were met with in the surface soil which is here of unusual thickness; but in proceeding with the excavation, the quarrymen came upon a large refuse pit, rudely circular in form, measuring 6 feet in diameter at the top and 5 feet at the bottom by 6 feet in depth, being thus considerably larger than those previously met with in the Tynning quarry.

1. The diagrams were exhibited at the meeting when this paper was read, but are not reproduced here.

The infilling, in this instance, was much the same, consisting of black earth or mould, mixed with charcoal, burnt earth, and stones foreign to the locality, or altered by fire, the deposit being easily distinguished from the surrounding Liassic débris, and containing a great abundance of ancient remains. These included numerous bones of mammals, birds and fishes, a few fragments of what were probably flint implements, various iron and bronze articles, few in number, but the latter very perfect of their kind, and a great quantity of pottery of different patterns and descriptions. Time will not suffice to describe these at any length, but the writer would now direct attention to a few of those most worthy of notice.

Flints.—There has been a notable absence of flint implements, both here and in the Tynning quarry, but the presence of flint at all at a point so far distant from the chalk formation is worthy of note, and some, if not all, of the fragments met with will probably be recognised as of human manufacture.

Bronze Implements.—Only three implements have yet been met with, and of these the most interesting is a pair of tweezers, which is quite perfect, showing little or no corrosion, after being buried, presumably, for upwards of 2,000 years. (See Plate B, Fig. 1.) It measures $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length, by nearly $\frac{3}{8}$ inches in breadth at the broadest end, and shows a distinct attempt at ornamentation, having a grooved line along each margin, with two groups of small circular dots on each side.

Next in importance is the half of a fibula, about 2 inches in length, which is almost a duplicate of one recently found at Silchester, a drawing of which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* of 17th June last, to which I have already called attention. (See Plate B, Fig. 4).

The other articles are supposed to have been a pin and an ear-pick, but this is rather a matter of conjecture. (See Plate B, Figs. 2 and 3.)

PLATE B.—REMAINS FROM KILMERSDON ROAD, RADSTOCK.

BRONZE IMPLEMENTS



Tweezers.

1



Pin.

2



Ear-pick.

3



Fibula.

4

POTTERY.



*Fragment of Samian, with
figure of a dog.*

5

Iron Implements.—About nine specimens¹ of iron have been met with, most of them having the appearance of nails or parts of nails, but the purposes for which some of the smaller articles may have been used, it is really impossible to say.

Iron Ore.—In connection with these iron implements, it may be mentioned that here as at the Tynning quarry, nodules of iron ore have been found, which present a meteoric appearance, but may be only ordinary hematite, and what purpose they served in the present instance, whether for the manufacture of iron, or in coloring some of the pottery, it is impossible to say.

Glass.—Two small pieces of glass² have been met with, one of which presents an appearance of antiquity, but even the clear specimen was found at a depth of four or five feet below the surface.

Pottery.—This has been found in great abundance, partly in the surface soil, and especially in the refuse pit, but unfortunately most of it is in a very fragmentary condition, the Romano-British domestics, like their modern representatives, having apparently been much addicted to smashing such necessary articles of domestic use. A general examination of these fragments will show that they contain examples of a great many distinct varieties of pottery, as well as a large number of vessels of every size and form.

Samian Ware.—Conspicuous amongst them is the *Samian Ware*, with its glossy deep red coloring, resembling red sealing wax, which stands out from all the rest, and the writer is indebted to Mrs. McMurtrie, for having joined together with infinite patience, several complete, or almost complete vessels, the component parts of which were distributed in a heterogeneous manner throughout the covering of soil and in the refuse pit. Owing to an incrustation adhering to the edges of the broken parts, they have not gone very well together, but they

¹ and ². Many more iron implements and pieces of glass were subsequently found.

show very clearly the shape and dimensions of these vessels, which were evidently for domestic use. (See Plate C, Figs. 1 and 2). Although graceful in shape, they show no attempt at ornamentation; but it will be observed that the maker has rudely scratched his initials on the bottom of one of them, the letters being V I R I L.

Amongst the fragments of other Samian vessels, which have not yet been pieced together, there are three examples of artistic ornamentation: one showing the figure of a hound, probably part of a hunting scene; but the quarrymen have disfigured it by scratching figures upon it, which is to be regretted. (See Plate B, Fig. 5).

Romano-British Pottery.—In addition to the Samian Ware, of which 60 fragments have been found, the writer has obtained from the Kilmersdon Road quarry about 650 fragments of *Romano-British Pottery* of various kinds, but no complete vessel of any description has yet been found or reconstructed. It has been possible, however, in some cases, to join together a sufficient number of fragments to give an idea of what the vessels were, and a few examples of these and of single pieces of different descriptions are now submitted for the inspection of members. (See Plate C, Figs. 3 to 10).

They include the following, amongst others, viz.:

Coarse Black Pottery, with small pebbles and broken shells embedded, which probably belonged to a cinerary urn of very large dimensions.

Smooth Black Pottery, of finer and thinner manufacture, of a glazed black color, with slight zig-zag markings outside, and brown unglazed finish inside.

Black Pottery, unglazed, and of a bluish black, both outside and inside; some examples show an incrustation of what is probably burned food.

Grey Pottery, of fine manufacture, slightly glazed outside, and unglazed inside.

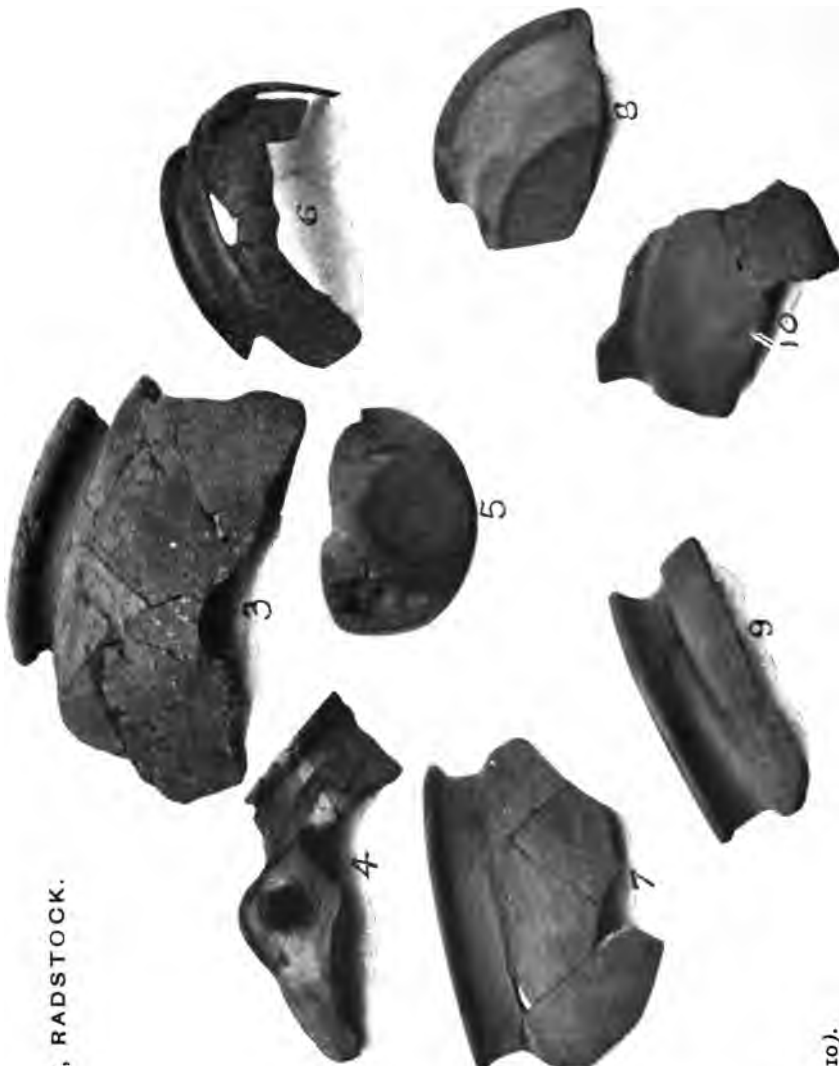
Dark Grey Pottery, of coarse texture, and unglazed both outside and in.

PLATE C.—REMAINS FROM
KILMERSDON ROAD, RADSTOCK.

1



2



Samian Ware (figures 1 and 2).

Black Pottery (figures 3 to 10).

Bluish Grey Pottery, thick, and of coarse manufacture.

Light Buff-colored Pottery, of very coarse texture and unglazed.

Pale Red Pottery, an example of the rim of a large vase of good outline.

Darker Red Pottery: examples of the rim and bottom of a vessel.

British Samian Pottery, a deep red-coloured fragment of a vessel resembling Samian, and agreeing with General Pitt Rivers's description of an imitation of Samian made in Britain.

Sundry examples of Rims and Handles of vessels of various shapes, and different kinds of pottery.

Sundry examples of Ornamented Pottery, which in all cases are of a very simple character.

Pellets. A few baked pellets, of which a few were met with during the excavation.

Not being an expert, the writer has made no attempt to identify these examples with the pottery of any particular locality, but it may be observed that they agree very closely with many of those described in General Pitt Rivers' books on the Romano-British pottery found in the Cranbourne Chase, and that they are very similar to many of those found by Mr. Arthur Bulleid in the Lake Village at Glastonbury, except as regards the latter, it may be remarked that down to the time when he read his paper before this Society in 1894, no single fragment of Samian ware had been discovered there, while in the Kilmersdon lane quarry it has been fairly abundant.

Bones and Teeth. Intermixed with the other remains already described, there have been found nearly 400 bones and teeth of various kinds, many being rather fragmentary, but all of them in a good state of preservation. Amongst them the remains of the following animals have been identified, viz.: the Horse, Cow, Sheep, Pig, Dog, Cat and Hedgehog, as well as a number of bones belonging to birds and fishes.

So far as the examination has gone no trace of human remains has been met with, nor any evidence of animals which are now extinct. There are a few partly burned bones, but they appear to be those of domestic animals, and to afford no evidence of cremation. Some of the bones bear marks of gnawing, possibly by the dogs, whose teeth have been found in the same deposit, and a large number seem to have been split open longitudinally to get out the marrow.

Concluding remarks.—In considering the probable age of the remains discovered in the Kilmersdon Road quarry, it would appear to the writer that they may possibly belong to a somewhat later date than those previously discovered at Tynning quarry, which, as already pointed out, have been considered by Professor Boyd Dawkins to belong to the pre-historic Iron age, and by Mr. Arthur Bulleid to have been contemporary with the remains in the Glastonbury Lake Village.

The total absence of Samian, and the very primitive character of the other pottery found at Tynning, would appear to give those remains an earlier date than the Kilmersdon Road deposit, where Samian and the finer kinds of pottery are plentiful, while the contents generally bear evidence of a more advanced civilisation. It is probable, therefore, that the Kilmersdon remains may have been contemporary with the Romano-British remains found by General Pitt Rivers on Cranbourne Chase, with which they appear to agree very closely, but it is to be remarked, that down to the present time, no coin of any kind has been met with to aid in determining the age of these interesting relics of the past.

An Inventory of Church Plate in Somerset. ✓

Part III*

BY THE REV. E. H. BATES, M.A., AND THE

REV. F. HANCOCK, M.A., F.S.A.,

Prebendary of Wells.

IN compiling another portion of the Inventory, I have had the valuable assistance of Prebendary Hancock for the Wiveliscombe District of Dunster Deanery. The descriptions of the plate were handed over to me to be reduced to 'common form,' while the Introductory notice and the notes on each parish, with certain exceptions in square brackets, are by him alone.

A change of residence has compelled me to vary the original plan of taking each Archdeaconry in turn. The Midsomer Norton district of the Frome Deanery must be left over for the present. It was possible, however, to take the Ilchester district, thus completing that deanery. In the Archdeaconry of Taunton the whole of the Crewkerne Deanery has been worked over, and one district of the Dunster Deanery. These four districts contain ninety ancient parishes, and nine modern parishes and chapelries, total ninety-nine.

The most interesting and valuable item is the Nettlecombe chalice with its paten, the oldest plate in England bearing a date-letter, whereby its age is exactly known. A full account

* Part I, containing the complete Deaneries of Cary and Merston appeared in vol. xlii; part II containing districts of Frome and Martock in vol. xliii.

will be found in the Introduction to the District and in the notes on the parish.

There is a large quantity of Elizabethan plate, exclusively cups and covers, it being found in fifty-five parishes. How valuable such plate is in every sense will be seen by this extract from a daily paper relating to a recent sale of silver plate. Among the lots sold were: "An Elizabethan cup engraved with scroll ornament, 1570, at 136*s.* per oz., £42 1*s.* 6*d.*; an Early English chalice, engraved with crucifix, and a plain paten, 1638, £22 1*s.*; a Commonwealth chalice, on plain baluster stem and round foot, 1656, at 96*s.* per oz., £43 5*s.* With these figures in evidence, I hope that it will not be thought presumptuous on my part to urge all custodians of such valuables to provide a *safe* resting place for them. A wooden cupboard even in a locked church is not a sufficient guard either from thieves or fire.

Twenty-five parishes were provided with plate by the ubiquitous I.P., whose handiwork exhibits as much uniformity as if it had been turned out at a modern *atelier*. One cup comes from Dorchester and another from Sherborne, while four were supplied by I. Ions, the well-known silver-smith of Exeter. The influence of the Exeter craft is also apparent in the design of several cups which have no regular marks. These peculiarities are to be found in the lip and knop. The lip instead of following the outward curve of the bowl, is straightened upwards for about half an inch, and this ring is sometimes concave in the middle. The knop is much thinner than in the London examples.

Five cups of this pattern have the same marks; the first is a circle containing the letters M.H. in a monogram; the second, also a circle, contains a St. Andrew's cross with a pellet in each spandrel. The two marks were cut on one punch, as in the only instance when the second mark comes first, the monogram is upside down. Speculation as to its place of origin had better be postponed until the whole of the Archdeaconry has

been examined. Other cups of the Exeter type will be found at Crewkerne, Curry Mallett, Ilton and Stocklinch Ottersay.

After 1600 interest with rare exceptions attaches rather to the different pieces of domestic plate now dedicated to religious purposes. There is a fine example of the Edmonds cup at Ilminster, unfortunately without its cover. At Treborough and Carhampton are two very handsome cups (see illustration). The marks on the latter cup are not known, and in the absence of any distinctive English mark, its place of origin must be open to conjecture, *vide* a note under Carhampton. There is also a beautiful little saucer, temp. Charles I, at Curry Rivel; another having been already noted in this county at Charlton Musgrove. There are no chalice-shaped vessels in the area under review. The other pieces of this and the next century are not of any particular interest *except* to their owners.

With this third instalment of the Inventory, nearly half the plate in the Diocese has been examined; and with a continuance of the help and kindness hitherto shown to the workers, the end does not seem so very far off. I should be very glad to hear from anyone willing to undertake a deanery or district in the northern part of the county.

MEDIEVAL PLATE.

1479. Nettlecombe, chalice and paten.

16TH CENTURY AFTER THE REFORMATION.

1570 Charlton Mackrell, cup and cover.	Elworthy, cup.
Compton Dundon, cup and cover.	Fitzhead, cup and cover.
Ile Brewers, cup.	Huish Champflower, cup and cover.
Wayford, cup and cover.	Ilchester, cup and cover.
Winsham, cover; cup, 1573.	Kingsbury Epi., cup and cover.
1571 High Ham, cup and cover.	Kingstone, cup and cover.
Huish Episcopi, cup and cover.	Limington, cup and cover.
1572 Beercrocombe, cup and cover.	Old Cleeve, cup and cover.
Broadway, cup.	Sampford Brett, cup and cover.
East Lambrooke, cup and cover.	Shepton Beauchamp, cup and cover.
Fivehead, cup and cover.	Skilgate, cup and cover.
Pitney, cup.	Somerton, cup and cover.
Swell, cup and cover.	South Petherton, cup and cover.
1573 Brompton Ralph, cup and cover.	Stocklinch Magdalen, cup and cover.
Chillington, cup and cover.	

16TH CENTURY AFTER THE REFORMATION—*continued.*

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| <p>Tolland, cup and cover.
 Upton, cup.
 Wiveliscombe, cup and cover.
 1574 Ashill, cup and cover.
 Barrington, cup and cover.
 Chaffcombe, cup and cover.
 Curland, cup and cover.
 Curry Mallet, cup and cover.
 Dinnington, cup and cover.
 Donyatt, cover.
 Langport, cup and cover.
 Raddington, cup and cover.
 Williton, cup and cover.
 Yeovilton, cup and cover.</p> | <p>1592 Ilminster, cup and cover.
 Undated, but of this period.
 Bicknoller, cup.
 Charlton Adam, cup.
 Drayton, cup and cover.
 Podymore Milton, cup.
 St. Decuman's, cup.
 Seaborough, cup.
 Stocklinch Ottersay, cup and cover.
 Withiel Florey, cup and cover.
 Withycombe, cup and cover.</p> |
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SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

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| <p>1607 Crewkerne, cup and cover.
 1609 Crewkerne, cup and cover.
 1610 Ilton, cup and cover.
 1611 Ilminster, cup.
 1614 Treborough, cup.
 1615 Stogumber, cup.
 1616 Whitelackington, cup and cover.
 1620 Curry Mallet, flagon.
 1624 East Lambrooke, paten.
 1628 Ilchester, paten.
 1630 Aller, cup and cover.
 1633 Muchelney, cup and cover.
 St. Decuman's, paten.
 1634 Carhampton, cup.
 Curry Rivel, saucer.
 St. Decuman's, cup and paten.
 1635 Misterton, cup and cover.
 Tolland, paten.
 1636 Tolland, paten.</p> | <p>1637 Curry Rivel, cup and cover.
 Puckington, cup.
 1639 Donyatt, cup.
 1640 Old Cleeve, paten.
 1654 Winsham, cup.
 1656 Cudworth, cup.
 1659 Whitestanton, cup.
 1664 Low Ham, service.
 1669 Low Ham, plate.
 1671 Leighland, cup.
 1674 Cricket St. Thomas, plate.
 1679 Williton, plate.
 1683 Crewkerne, plate.
 1692 Curry Rivel, cup and cover.
 Somerton, service.
 1696 Fitzhead, paten.
 1699 Monksilver, paten.
 1700 Huish Epi, paten.
 Yeovilton, plate.</p> |
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EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

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| <p>1703 Broadway, salver.
 Stocklinch Ottersay, paten.
 1708 Winsham, paten.
 1710 Aller, paten.
 1712 White Lackington, paten.
 1713 Hatch Beauchamp, paten.
 Wiveliscombe, paten.
 1715 Seavington S. Mary, cup.
 1716 Monksilver, cup
 South Petherton, paten and flagon.
 1718 Charlton Adam, paten.
 1720 Sampford Brett, paten.
 1722 Northover, salver.
 1723 Barrington, paten.
 1724 Barrington, flagon.
 Puckington, paten.
 South Petherton, dish.
 1726 Staple Fitzpaine, paten.
 1729 Podymore Milton, paten.
 1730 Kingsbury Epi., dish.
 1733 Stogumber, paten and flagon.</p> | <p>1736 Pitney, paten.
 1739 Lopen, cup and cover.
 1749 Kingsbury Epi, flagon.
 1752 Hatch Beauchamp, cup.
 1757 Clatworthy, cup
 1760 Ile Brewers, cover.
 1767 Withycombe, flagon.
 1769 Ashill, salver.
 1774 South Petherton, paten.
 1776 Sampford Brett, flagon.
 1779 Rodhuish, cup and paten.
 1781 Long Sutton, cup and cover.
 1782 Wiveliscombe, flagon.
 1787 Limington, paten.
 1790 Brompton Ralph, salver.
 1792 Chipstable, cup.
 1793 Hatch Beauchamp, cup and cover.
 1795 Huish Champflower, oval dish.
 1797 Clatworthy, alms dish.</p> |
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ARMORIALS.

Aysh, South Petherton.
Cabell, "
Chichester (crest), Northover.
Courtenay, Sampford Brett.
Fownes, Buckland S. Mary.
Gifford, Sampford Brett.
Hay, Stogumber.
Jeffries, Stocklinch Ottersay.
Keymer, Buckland S. Mary.

Rosse, Somerton.
Sherman, Aller.
Stawel, Low Ham.
Strode, Barrington.
Walshe, Curry Mallet.
Unidentified.
Aller, coat of arms.
Barrington, crest.

ILCHESTER DISTRICT.

This district contains seventeen ancient parishes and one private chapel, founded 1622. The district is rich in Elizabethan plate, there being twelve cups, four of which were made before 1572. Eight different makers are represented, including Orange of Sherborne and Stratford of Dorchester. With the sub-division of the Martock district, the deanery possesses, in thirty-six parishes, twenty-two Elizabethan cups, an average which I fear will not be beaten.

ALLER.—The cup with cover is of the best pattern of the early seventeenth century. Devoid of ornament, its beauty depends entirely on the proportion and workmanship. The cup stands 6½ in. high. The cover is without the flange usually found in the preceding century; on the button is the date 1630. Marks (the same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1630; maker's mark, in a plain shield, the initials R. S., with a pellet below. These initials, with the pellet enlarged into a heart, are often found on plate of this period.

A plain paten on foot, diam. 6½ in. Marks: 2 Brit sterling; date-letter for 1710; maker's mark, B A. in shaped punch, *i.e.* Richard Bayley, ent. 1708. In the middle of the paten within mantling is a shield bearing: A lion ramp. betw. 3 oak leaves, imp., a cross moline, a crescent in dexter chief. Crest, a sea-lion crowned. The underside is inscribed: 'The gift of Tho: Sherman of London to the Parish Church of Aller in Summersett Shire 1710.' This gentleman's interest in Aller is not known (note by Prebendary Nicholson, rector of Aller).

A large plated flagon, 'The gift of J. Cumming, Esq., Tonbridge Wells, Easter 1895.' Another ancient flagon of pewter.

CHARLTON ADAM.—The Elizabethan cup has only one mark, a small star with five points, found on several other cups in this neighbourhood (see introduction). It is parcel gilt, the parts so treated being the bands of ornament; and stands $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. high. The bowl is almost V shaped, with one band of ornament; there are bands of upright strokes above and below the stem which seems to have been broken and roughly mended. On the foot is a belt of egg-and-dart ornament.

There is only one mark; the date is probably about 1573. The cover is missing.

A small paten on foot, diam. $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. Marks: 2 Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1718; maker's mark, B A. in shaped punch, *i.e.* Richard Bayley.

Pewter, a large flagon, and a bason, on the underside of which are the initials J. K. and E. C.

CHARLTON MACKRELL.—All the plate here has been given in recent times, but a part is of the Elizabethan era and of very unusual design. This cup, silver gilt, stands $5\frac{1}{8}$ in. high, diameter of bowl at lip $2\frac{1}{2}$ in., and depth $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. The bowl is much deeper in proportion to its diameter than is usual. A series of projecting ribs, starting from the top of the stem, enclose the lower part of the bowl; they stop halfway up, and are finished off with a small ornamental flourish engraved on the bowl itself. Above this is a broad band of hyphen strokes; the lip has also some slight engraving. The stem is unusually short, as the slope of the foot is carried up further than usual and terminates in a flange. On the spread of the foot is a belt of egg-and-dart ornament. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark unfortunately almost gone, perhaps the bunch of grapes given by *Cripps* under 1568. The cover gives no assistance, as it has no marks at all; it is of the usual design and ornamentation. The cup is inscribed:

'The gift of the Revd. Wm. Thos. Parr Brymer, M.A. and F.A.S., Rector of this Parish 1822.' It was the year of his appointment, and he held the rectory for thirty years. The same donor also presented a duplicate of the cup and cover, with two patens and a flagon of the same design. These pieces bear the date-letter for 1855. There is also a large almsdish with the date-letter for 1846.

The set of pewter includes a cup (a ghastly object) of early eighteenth century design and a flagon.

COMPTON DUNDON.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by the same maker as the cups at Pilton and Batcombe, and, like them, of an earlier date than usual. The cup stands $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. high. There is one band of ornament round the bowl; this, as well as the other engraved ornament of the cup and bowl, is gilt; the knop has the hyphen strokes; egg-and-dart will be found on the spread of the feet and on the cover. On the broad button of the latter gilt is 'C. D., 1570.' Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark, H. W. in monogram.

HIGH HAM.—A handsome Elizabethan cup and cover of early date. The cup stands $6\frac{5}{8}$ in. high; it has one band of running ornament gilt round the bowl; the stem and foot are plain. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark apparently the head of an animal. The cover is quite plain and devoid of ornament; the button is gilt and bears the date 1571. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1571; maker's mark, a mullet with fiery points, found elsewhere in the diocese.

A modern paten with engraved brim; inscribed on under side: 'The gift of Rachel, John, and Joseph Travis, Easter 1871. Another paten, smaller and plainer, with the initials of the aforesaid donors, who were of Muchelney.

Pewter, 2 flagons of different sizes, 2 plates, and a 'decent' bason, in fact almost a complete set.

HUISH EPISCOPI.—A large cup and cover of two different periods. The cup is $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. high; the V shaped bowl is en-

circled with two bands of the conventional Elizabethan ornament, but very coarsely done; the stem and foot, on the contrary, are well designed and worked with the egg-and-dart ornament. The bowl is inscribed: John Collier; John Baker of Hewish near Langport; Churchwardens 1689. There are no marks visible. The cover is of the usual pattern; on the button is the date 1571. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1571; maker's mark illegible. The best way of accounting for the different styles is to suppose that at the latter date the Elizabethan bowl had been so damaged as to require renovation, which was carried out so conscientiously as to reproduce the older ornamentation, though to be betrayed by the inferiority of execution. (For another case of reproduction of older work see under S. Cuthbert's, Wells, *Proc.* xliii, ii, 213.) There is a clumsy cup at Curry Rivel, a neighbouring village, bearing the date 1692 and having only one mark, the maker's, which might have come from the same atelier.

A paten on foot with goiffered edges, diameter 9in. Marks: 2 offic. Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1700; maker's mark worn away. It is inscribed: Mr. John Mitchell, Vicar; John Witch, George Collier, Churchwardens. As John Mitchell, of Wadham Coll., Oxford, was not appointed until 1722, and the two parishioners were churchwardens 1726-7-8,¹ this inscription must have been added later.

A modern chalice, paten, flagon and cruet with silver mountings, each piece bearing the dedicatory inscription: To the glory of God: in memory of Major Generall J. E. Michell, C.B., of Huish, 16 Sept., 1883.

A pewter flagon.

ILCHESTER.—A fine specimen of I. P.'s work. The cup is 7in. high; there are two bands of running ornament round bowl, and hyphen-bands on knop and foot. These bands are gilt. The cover is parcel gilt; on the button 1574 and the

1. *Proc.* xl, ii, 89.

initials E. G. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I. P.

A plain paten on foot, no marks visible. Inscribed : 'The guifte of Anne Summers 1628.'

A modern chalice and paten wholly gilt ; inscribed : 'This chalice and paten are an offering to the Church of S. Mary Major Ilchester in loving memory of William Buckler Priest, for nearly 40 years Rector of this parish ; Jesu Mercy. Easter Day A.D. 1898.'

Two cruets with silver mountings—'Presented to the church of St. Mary, Ilchester, by Arthur George Wichelo, Whitsunday A.D. 1896.'

KINGSDON.—The plate here is all modern. It consists of two cups parcel gilt and a broad paten on foot. Each piece is inscribed : 'Kingsdon 1831.' A silver flagon, inscribed ; 'Presented to Kingsdon Church by Mrs. Neal, Jan. 1869.'

LANGPORT.—A large cup and cover by R. Orange of Sherborne (see introduction to pt. I). It is like the cup at Henstridge, but the ornamentation at the intersections of the fillets is merely a repetition of the patterns found between them ; it is 8½ in. high. The button of the cover bears the date 1574. The only mark is that of the maker, a circle filled with dots. This is a rebus on his name, the marks representing a sieve, which in Dorset is called a range, the circle standing for the initial letter.

There is also a modern service consisting of a cup (Victorian pattern), paten, dish and flagon ; on this last piece is a dedicatory inscription : 'This Sacramental Service was presented by Vincent Stuckey, Esq., to the Parish of Langport 1839.'

Pewter : a large flagon 13 in. high.

LIMINGTON.—A handsome cup and cover by I. P. The cup stands 7 in. high. There are two bands of interlaced ornament round the bowl, and bands of hyphen strokes on knop and foot. It is inscribed : Limington. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I. P. The cover has been

hardly used ; on the button is the date 1573 and the Hebrew ידן

There is also a plain paten on foot, 6½ in. in diameter. Marks : 3 offic. ; and date-letter for 1787. A modern flagon made in 1861.

LONG SUTTON.—A large cup and cover of the uninteresting period of George III. The cup is quite plain, of the egg-cup type ; the paten is after an earlier pattern, and bears on the button, I. H., 1782. These initials have not yet been identified. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1781 ; maker's mark worn away. A modern flagon made in 1887.

LOW HAM.—The ecclesiastical status of the church at Low Ham seems to be simply that of a private chapel to a vanished mansion house. It was endowed by Sir Edward Hext, of Netherham, by a deed, dated 10th June, 1522 (*Proc.* xl. i. 33). In his will, dated 10th November, 1623, and proved 11th May, 1624, he "is to be buried in the North Isle of the Chapple of Netherham, under a tomb which I have caused to be made there" (*Brown, Wills II.* 57). The tomb is to be seen in its right place (*mirabile dictu*) at this day, with the figures of Sir Edward and Dionis Hext laid thereon. *Collinson* says (iii. 445) "an inscription in the east window of the present chapel records that it was founded at the sole expence of George Stawel, Esq., 20th May, anno 20 Car. II., and consecrated A.D. 1669." The inscription is now fragmentary, and it is not possible to tell how far the copy is an accurate one. The first part of the inscription must certainly be wrong by the evidence given above, and I very much doubt if George Stawel did more than restore a building, which from its nearness to Langport, doubtless suffered much during the civil war. The architecture, debased Gothic, is far more likely to belong to the period of Charles I than of his successor.

The plate consists of a large and plain cup 8½ in. high. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1664 ; maker's mark, T.R., under a crescent in a shield. The cup bears an inscription :

"Sacelli Low Ham in Comitatu Somerset ex dono Radolphi Stawel Armigeri 1665." Arms: A cross lozengy, on a canton a mullett, for the cadency mark of the third son. A paten on foot 6½in. wide, with same marks and inscription. A large flat-topped flagon with same marks and inscription, except that the donor's name is George, and the mullett is omitted.

Sir John Stawel, of Cothelstone, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir Edward Hext, and in his will, proved 29th March, 1661-2, made his son, George, executor and heir to all his estate. On the monument in Cothelstone Church it is recorded that he left three sons to survive, John, George, and Ralph, and here again it is the second son who raises the monument 'patri carissimo.' The cadency mark on the cup and paten is a proof that Ralph had two elder brothers as late as 1664, or otherwise one would suppose that in spite of the inscription John had predeceased his father. It looks rather as if the eldest son had become deranged. The second son, George, died childless in 1670, and was succeeded by Ralph, who was created 15th January, 1682-3, Lord Stawel, of Somerton.

A plain flat dish with an engraved date 1669. The only mark is that of the maker, as on the other pieces. All the plate has been gilt by Sir Charles Wathen, late lord of the manor.

MUCHELNEY.—A very handsome cup, with cover of the early part of the seventeenth century, but having the bowl encircled with a band of the distinctive Elizabethan ornament. The cup is 7½in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1633; maker's mark R.S., with star and two pellets above, and one below in shield. The cover is shallow with raised brim, and has the same marks. Underneath the cup: 'I.B., R.B., 1633, 17oz. 11dw't.'

A new chalice, paten, and flagon; each piece is inscribed: 'In honorem D.O.M. et in usum Ecclesiæ S.S. Petri et Pauli

de Muchelnaye d.d. Gulielmus Long et Elizabetha uxor ejus A.D. MDCCCLXXIII.' The Long family have been owners of the abbey for many years.

NORTHOVER.—The cup and salver are of plated metal, inscribed: 'Presented to Ilchester Church by Mrs. Shorland, of Northover, January, 1849.' This contradictory statement is due to the fact that the donor intended these articles for Ilchester, but as they were firmly (though we trust politely) declined, passed them on to Northover.

Of silver, the parish possesses a salver with fluted edge, 6½ in. across. It is inscribed: 'The gift of John Hody, Esq., to his grandson, John Hody Chichester.' Crest, a stork with an eel in its mouth (Chichester). Marks: 2 offic.; date letter for 1722; maker's mark, a dog statant above the initials T.M. —Thomas Morse.

In the church are several monuments to the families of Hody and Chichester. John Hody presented Edward Chichester to the rectory in 1713; the donee was the latter's son-in-law, and eventually succeeded to the property.

PITNEY LORTY.—A small Elizabethan cup by I.P., minus its cover. It is of his usual design, with two belts of ornament round the bowl. Marks: 2 offic.; date letter for 1572; maker's mark, I.P. A small paten on feet, diam. 5½ in. Marks: 2 offic.; date letter for 1736; maker's mark B.C., in shaped punch. It is inscribed: 'The gift of Mrs. Lovell to the Church of Pitney 1738.' No doubt some relation of the Rev. Edmund Lovell, appointed to the rectory 1724. A modern flagon inscribed: 'Pitney Church restored and reopened July 21st, 1875. Hebr. xiii. 20.'

PODYMORE MILTON.—An Elizabethan cup, with the single mark of a five-pointed star; also found at Keinton Mandeville (1575), South Barrow (1576), Charlton Adam (no date), Stowell (1574), and Chaffcombe, the cover (1574). The cup here is also not dated. The first four villages are all close together, and Stowell is not distant; and the maker *may* have

lived at either Somerton or Castle Cary. He must have been a person of some ingenuity, as the mark occurs on three different types of bowl. This at Podymore has a V-shaped bowl with one band of ornament; there are belts of upright strokes above and below the stem; and egg-and-dart on the foot. The cover is missing. The only mark is the maker's.

A small paten on foot, diam. $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Inscribed on underside: 'This paten was presented to the church of Puddimore by the Venerable Archdeacon Law, in the month of July, 1828.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1729; maker's mark, R.B. in oblong punch—Richard Bayley.

A glass cruet, with plated mountings, inscribed: 'Podymore, 1863. A thankoffering for mercies received.'

SOMERTON.—A considerable amount of plate, principally from additions in the seventeenth century.

An Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. The cup is $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. high; there are two bands of ornament round bowl; the egg-and-dart design is found on the spread of the foot, and on the cover. On the bottom is the date 1573. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P.

At the close of the next century was added a set of extraordinary size and weight. The cup is 10in. high, and $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. across at the lip; the stem is composed of annular mouldings; at the foot of the stem is a flange covered with gadrooned ornament. The paten is $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter; the flagon is $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, of tankard pattern; and last, but certainly not least, there is the alms dish which is $19\frac{1}{4}$ in. from side to side. All these pieces have the sacred monogram within a rayed circle, and bear the same marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1692; maker's mark, R.L., above a fleur-de-lys, in a shield, probably Ralph Leeke.

There is also a primitive paten formed out of a circular silver plate, turned up at the rim. Instead of the ordinary cylindrical foot, the paten is supported upon the representation

of a bird's claw in silver. There are no marks or date. On the paten is the couplet: "With pvrgeð sovles like fined silver pvre receve that bread which shall for aye endvre." This distich is also found at White Lackington, see post. Within the inscription, which is engraved round the rim, are the initials R.M., and a shield bearing: Per fesse arg. and sa., a pale counterchanged, 3 herons' heads of the second. These are the arms of Rosse of Shepton Beauchamp; a member of that family having married a daughter and co-heire of John Heyron, of Langport, and taken his wife's arms. The bird's claw is, of course, that of a heron, which was the badge or crest of the Heyrons (*vide* Som. and Dors. N. and Q., vi, pt. 47, no. 169). James Rosse, the head of the family in the Visitation of 1623, describes himself as of Shepton and Somerton. He had a daughter, Mary, who may have been the donor, as these patens are generally of the latter part of the seventeenth century.

YEOVILTON.—A beautiful cup and cover by Lawrence Stratford, of Dorchester, whose handywork has hitherto been represented in this diocese only by the cup at Weston Bampfild. The cup is 6½ in. high; and has a band of running ornament of graceful design round the bowl with elaborate ornamentations at the intersections of the fillets. On the spread of the foot is a band of egg-and-dart ornament. The cover is quite plain; on the button is the date 1574. The only mark is the triple one of the maker, a small cross, L. S. in monogram within circle, and a star of six points.

A flat shallow dish, 8½ in. across; in the centre is the sacred monogram within a rayed circle; on the underside, 'Yeovilton, An: Dom: 1700.' The only mark is an oblong punch containing two initials, the first G, the second rather doubtful, but if F, then it is the mark found at Bruton (1706) and Ansford.

A large pewter flagon, 'Yeovilton,' and another of plated metal, 'Yeovilton, 1872.'

ARCHDEACONRY OF TAUNTON.

DEANERY OF CREWKERNE.

CREWKERNE DISTRICT.

This District contains 25 ancient parishes and chapelries, and four modern churches and mission chapels. Elizabethan plate occurs in ten parishes, while five possess nothing earlier than this century. In one parish, however, the absence of anything old is due to a burglary.

CHAFFCOMBE.—Here there is an elegant cup by a provincial maker whose initials were M. H. (see introduction). It stands 6½ in. high; the bowl is V shaped with the upright lip, which is a peculiarity of the Exeter pattern; this is encircled with the twisted cable ornament. In addition to this there is another band of ornament round the bowl. The knop is slender; the cable pattern is repeated on the foot. Marks: M. H. combined in a monogram within a circle, and a cross with pellets between the arms also in a circle. There are no hall-marks or date-letter. The cover is quite plain; on the button is the date 1574; the only mark is a mullet with five points (v. notes on Ilchester District).

CHARD.—Two cups, paten, salver, and flagon all of modern date, the unavoidable necessity of this being explained by the inscription on the flagon: 'The ancient Sacramental Vessels of the Church of Chard sacrilegiously stolen January, 1842, and Providentially recovered in a mutilated state were recast into the present Holy Utensils in May, 1842. W. B. Whitehead, M.A., vicar, John Welch and Robert Silvester, churchwardens.'

CHARD, FURNHAM.—A modern parish formed in 1897. The plate consists of a chalice and paten silver gilt. (Note by Rev. C. R. Elrington, vicar.)

CHILLINGTON.—There is here a good example of I. P.'s work. The cup is parcel gilt, 7½ in. high. There are two bands of ornament round the bowl, the knop has hyphen strokes on it, and there is another band on the foot. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, I. P. The cup is inscribed in modern lettering: 'Parish of Chillington, Somerset, 1573.' The cover is of the usual pattern; on the button is the date 1573; the date-letter is, however, for the previous year.

Another cup with lower part of the bowl fluted; the date-letter is for the year 1800. It is inscribed: 'Presented by the family of Cricket St. Thomas to the Parish of Chillington.' This inscription is also found on the paten and flagon which have the date-letter for 1841.

A salver on three feet with the date-letter for 1837. It is inscribed: 'Presented to the Parish of Chillington by the Lord of the Manor, J. T. B. Notley, Esq., of Combe Sydenham, July, 1842.' A monument in the church records the descent of this family for many generations.

There is also a pewter bowl at present in the font.

COMBE S. NICHOLAS.—The vessels here are of some plated metal; they are two cups, paten and flagon.

CREWKERNE.—The oldest cup and cover bear the Exeter hall-mark. The cup stands 9 in. high; the bowl is trumpet-shaped with two bands of ornament, the upper one running round the lip. The ornamentation consists merely of a series of short curved lines; this and the other engraved portions are gilt. On the foot is a band of egg and dart ornament. Marks: Exeter ancient, an X with a crown above in a circle; maker's mark, B.W. in shield, the first initial above the second, struck twice. The cover is quite plain except for a band of hyphens on the outer edge gilt, and a gilt band round button. On this is dotted in: "This cup was new made by Mr. John Freke, of Croochorne, the 4th of Mrche, 1607." Same marks as on cup. Under the entry of the plate at

Pendomer, in the Martock Deanery, there will be found some notice of another Crewkerne goldsmith family named Sweet. But I have not been able to identify any provincial marks in this locality as belonging to either family.

Another cup and cover also parcel-gilt. The cup is 8in. high, straight-sided, with the side, just at the brim, turning straight up so as to form a ring round the bowl; on this ring is engraved a band of the usual Elizabethan ornament coarsely done. The belt round the middle of the bowl encloses instead of ornament the lettering : R.W.C. WARDENS. The knop has the hyphen ornament, and the foot a modification of the egg-and-dart. The cover is quite plain, the edge hatched and gilt; the button is gilt inscribed : 'Crukern 1609.' There are no marks of any description.

A large flat dish, diam. 10½in. On it are dotted in the initials R.F. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1683 ; maker's mark F.S. in oblong punch. A tall silver flagon with an inscription on the foot : "Presented to the Parish Church of Crewkerne, by William Sparkes, Esqre., Feby., 1847."

CREWKERNE, CHRISTCHURCH.—A chapel of ease erected in 1854 ; it possesses a chalice, paten, and flagon, of modern mediæval design with the date letter for 1854.

CREWKERNE, HEWISH.—This mission chapel possesses an electro-plate chalice and paten. (Note by Rev. R. Y. Bonsey).

CRICKET MALERBIE.—A chalice, paten, and flagon of modern mediæval design, silver-gilt, with the date letter for 1852.

CRICKET S. THOMAS.—Most of the plate here is modern. It consists of a silver-gilt cup, with the date letter for 1808, inscribed : "Presented by Viscount Bridport to the Church of Cricket S. Thomas, Somerset." The flagon, with the date letter for 1809, bears the same inscription. Alexander Hood, Viscount Bridport, Senior Admiral of England, lies in the little church. His name and services would be far better known to his countrymen, but that he had the fortune to be contemporary

with Nelson. A small paten, with the date-letter for 1825, inscribed : "Church, Cricket S. Thomas, 1825."

Of the ancient plate there only remains a broad salver, 11 in. across ; it is principally brim with a shallow depression in the centre. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1674 ; maker's mark, W.G. with small object below in heart-shaped punch. On the brim are the initials K.H., dotted in with flourishes. Margaret, daughter and heir of John Preston, of Cricket S. Thomas, had married, before 1648, John Hippisley of Stoneaston, and in the will of Catherine Preston, proved in that year, her 'grandchild, Margaret Hippisley and her daughter Catherine' are mentioned (Brown, *Somerset Wills III*, 92). In 1683, Elizabeth Buckland in her will mentions Mrs. Catherine Hippisley (Brown v. 73) ; so it may well be that this lady spelt with a K was the donor.

CUDWORTH.—The only piece of silver plate here is a small cup of the baluster stem pattern. It stands 6 in. high, and, as is usual with this type in this period, has no ornament. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1656 ; maker's mark C.P. above a star in shield.

A flat dish of plated metal and a glass cruet.

DINNINGTON.—A handsome cup and cover, parcel-gilt, by the provincial maker, whose initials were M.H. (see introduction). The cup is 7½ in. high ; the lip of the bowl is turned up straight and decorated with interlaced cable ornament, which is also found on the foot and on the cover. Round the bowl is a band of conventional ornamentation. Marks : the only ones are the maker's, the initials M.H. combined in monogram, and a cross with pellets between the arms. On the button of the cover, which has the same marks, is the date 1574. A paten and dish of plated metal.

DOWLISH WAKE.—The parish possesses only modern plate. A plain cup, parcel gilt, with the date-letter for 1806. Another cup of similar design, and a salver supported on three feet. Each piece has the date-letter for 1807, and a dedicatory in-

scription : "Septimus Collinson, D.D. 1809." The donor was the rector of the parish.

EAST LAMBROOK.—A handsome cup and cover by I.P. The cup is 6½in. high ; the bowl is straight-sided with two bands of ornament, which is also found on the foot ; on the knop the hyphen ornament, and at either end of the stem bands of small designs. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1572 ; maker's mark I.P. The cover is of the usual pattern with a band of ornament ; on the button is the date 1573.

There is also a paten of later date and unusual design. It is 5½in. across, and has a shallow depression within a wide brim. The outer edge of the brim is alternately scalloped with projecting angles between. The brim itself is pierced with oblong openings radiating from the centre. On the under-side are dotted in 'I.H. 1637.' Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1624 ; maker's mark nearly worn away.

HINTON ST. GEORGE.—Whatever plate of either public or private donation the parish possessed was got rid of in the early part of this century, and replaced by some typical specimens. These comprise a large cup inscribed '1815 ;' a paten inscribed 'Hinton St. George,' with date-letter for 1813, and a plate of the same date inscribed, 'The gift of Thomas Beagley 1813, Hinton S. George.' The donor was steward to Lord Poulett.

KINGSBURY EPISCOPI.—The parish has a good cup and cover by I. P. The cup is 7½in. high ; the bowl has two bands of the usual ornament, hyphen marks on knop and upper part of foot ; egg-and-dart on the lower part. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I. P. The cover is of the usual shape with a band of ornament ; on the button is the date 1573. The marks are the same as on the cup.

A plain dish, diam. 9in. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1730 ; maker's mark partly obliterated ; the initials, T. T. below a rose and crown=Thos. Tearle.

A flagon of moderate size with round-topped lid. Marks :

2 offic. ; date-letter for 1749 ; maker's mark, R. G. and T. C. in quadrate punch, being the trade mark of Gurney and Co., entered 1739. On the flagon is this inscription : "The gift of James Gould Gent. to the Parish Church of Kingsbury in the County of Somerset Whose Family lyes Enter'd in a Vault the South side of the Churchyard neare the Church 1749." Following these directions it was not difficult to discover the family vault and the high altar-tomb erected upon it. At one end is a shield bearing a lion rampant, the blazon being according to a monument in the church : per saltire or and azure, a lion rampant counterchanged. Crest, a demi-lion ramp. or. Two other sides of the tomb are covered over with pernicious ivy. On the south face : Here lyeth y^e Body of James Gould late of London Gent. who acquired a handsome fortune with a Good Character. He gave fifty pounds to five poor widows of this parish, and y^e like sume to five poor widdowes of Ilminster. A worthy example. He dy'd Feb. 25, 1750, aged 51. Here also are interr'd I^s & M^{ry} two more of his children ; Exeunt omnes. (This last paragraph has been added later.) Here lyeth inter'd the Body of Mrs. Mary Gould Wife of James Gould citizen and Goldsmith of London, and daughter of Dampier of Blackford Gent. Who departed this Life y^e 10 day of Feb. 17 . . in y^e 54 year of her age. With her lieth five of her children William John Henry Mary and Mary Gould each under Two years of age." James Gould must have been a member of his Company by 1722 as he then entered his mark, his initials combined in a monogram. *Cripps* O.E.P.

KINGSTONE.—This parish possesses a handsome cup and cover by the same maker as of that at Compton Dundon (see above). The cup stands 7½ in. high. The bowl is straight-sided with two bands of running ornament much resembling the handiwork of I. P. ; there is another band of ornament on the foot, and on the flat a band of egg-and-dart ornament. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, the

initials H.W. in shaped punch. The cover is a good match with the domed part encircled with a band of ornament; on the button, 1573; marks, same as on cup.

Pewter: a dish; a bowl marked K S. 1772; and a large flagon inscribed 'Kingstone 1633.'

KNOWLE S. GILES.—The plate is all modern. It consists of a cup silver gilt, paten on foot, and salver, with the date-letter for 1840; also a flagon of the date 1848. The earlier date is that of the rebuilding of the church.

LOPEN.—The parish possesses a cup and cover of the Georgian period. The cup stands 7½ in. high; the bowl is quite plain, and merges gradually into the stem, which is encircled with a rudimentary knop; the foot is moulded. The cover fits loosely on the cup; the button is inscribed: "W. Adams, churchwarden of Lopen, 1739." Marks on cup: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1738; maker's mark in oblong punch, the initials R.B.—Robert Brown. The cover has only the last mark struck four times.

MERRIOTT.—The communion plate is all modern of mediæval design. Chalice silver-gilt (date-letter for 1883) is inscribed: "The Holy Vessels restored Xmas., 1883, Donald Claxton, vicar, B. B. Norton, H. G. Whitley, churchwardens. Two patens, one inscribed: "D. D., Joseph Cross, M.A., vicar of Merriott, 1836, Jan. 14." This has probably been transferred from an earlier gift. Two glass cruets with silver mountings.

A large pewter flagon, tankard pattern, inscribed: "1680, William Mills, Josias French, churchwardens."

MISTERTON.—A cup and cover with the Exeter hall-mark, silver-gilt. The cup stands 7½ in. high, and greatly resembles the patterns of the eighteenth century. The bowl is trumpet-shaped and rounded at the base; it has one band of a parody of ornament round the bowl; the stem is long with a knop; on the spread of the foot is a modification of the egg-and-dart ornament. The only mark is that of the Exeter mint, an X

with a crown above in a circle. On the button of the plain cover are some ornamental flourishes dotted in with the date 1635.

There are also a paten on a foot, dish, and large flagon of plated metal.

SEABOROUGH.—The cup here is a good example of Exeter workmanship, though, unfortunately, it has lost its cover. The cup stands $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. high ; the bowl is conical with distinctive upright moulding of the lip ; there is one band of peculiar ornamentation inclosed within patched fillets, which interlace through open lozenges. Bands of egg-and-dart ornament will be found above and below stem, and on the foot. The only marks are the Exeter hall-mark (see under Misterton), and that of the maker IONS within oblong punch. John Ions, of Exeter, flourished in the early part of the reign of Elizabeth. Underneath is scratched : Jn. T. Stevens, 1828.

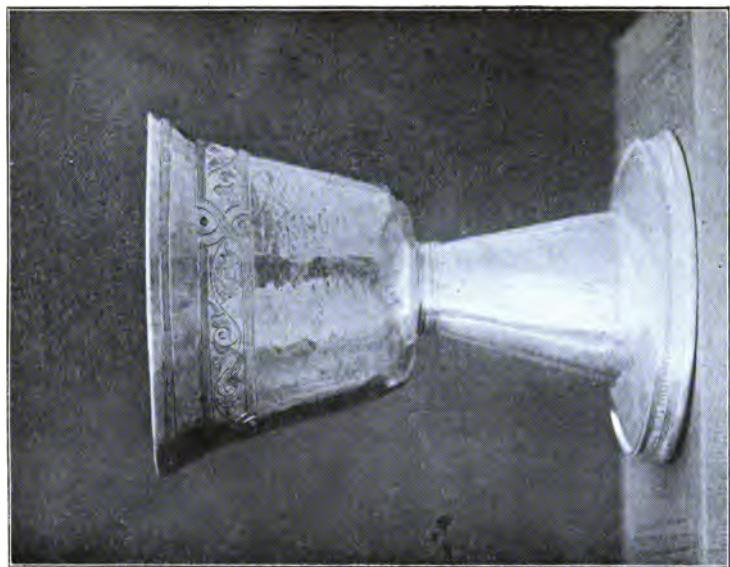
There are also a small paten, dish, and flagon of some modern substitute for silver, which is to be hoped do not represent the vanished cover.

SEAVINGTON S. MARY.—The cup is of a nondescript design. It stands $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. high. The lower part of the bowl is repousée, with fluted patterns terminating in a belt of crescents with small engraved ornaments above. The upper part is encircled with a projecting rib roughly designed with the cable pattern. Between this rib and the belt of crescents is an inscription : "Ioseph and Giles Hutchens, church wardens of Sevington Mary, Anno Domini 1715." There are no regular marks, but two pairs of marks neither very distinct ; the first is, perhaps, a full blown rose ; the second defies even a guess. The flutings, found also on the foot of the cup, are a very distinctive feature in the cup at Evercreech, probable date about 1700. The stem is plain with an annular knop. The paten of the usual design on foot has the date-letter for 1851 ; this date is also engraved on the under side.

SEAVINGTON S. MICHAEL.—The silver plate is all modern.



SOUTH PETHERTON.
Chalice and Paten.



ST. DECUMAN'S.
Chalice.

It consists of a cup and paten, with the date-letter for 1840, and a salver dated 1861.

SOUTH PETHERTON.—This ancient town has a good deal of interesting plate. First of all there is a fine silver-gilt cup with cover by I.P. (see illustration from a photograph kindly taken by G. S. Poole, Esq.) The cup stands 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; the bowl is slightly trumpet-shaped; there is one large and elaborate band of ornament, the inclosing bands interlacing through a transverse figure of eight. There is a good deal of engraved ornament on the other parts of the cup, and on the cover, which has the date 1573 on the button. Marks: 2 offic.; date letter for 1573; maker's mark I.P.

A large flat-topped flagon, tankard-pattern, silver-gilt, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in height, with large foot and handle. On the front of the drum: *Ποτηριον Αγαπης*. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; the modern Exeter hall-mark, 3 castles in a shield; date-letter for 1716; maker's mark, El in old English letters, under a crown in a circle, probably Elston of Exeter. On the flagon is this inscription: "Ex dono Arturi Bury, A.M., Anno Dom. 1716." Under the foot 'South Petherton.'

A paten on foot, silver-gilt, 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. across, with the same marks and inscription as on the flagon. On the paten: *Αpros Ουρανου*. Another paten of the same shape and size, inscribed: 'South Petherton 1774.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1774; maker's mark W.C. in oblong punch.

A very heavy dish, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, inscribed: 'The greatest of these is charity.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1724; maker's mark R.B. in oblong punch—Richard Bayley. There is also a dedicatory inscription: "The gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Fownes to the Church of South Petherton 1724." In the dish is a shield surrounded by mantling bearing: A horse bridled (Cabell), imp. 2 chevrons (Aysh). Crest, a horse bridled.

The following details concerning the donors are taken from 'South Petherton in the Olden Time' by Dr. Norris, revised edit., 1882.

"In the chancel of our church is a stone slab to the memory of Arthur Bury, S.T.P., who died May 3rd, 1713, at the age of 91. The donor of the plate above mentioned was probably a son of the Dr. Bury, and we may presume it to have been presented as a loving filial memento of a loving parent? This Mrs. Fownes was a daughter of William Aysh, the Royalist [of Hele in South Petherton]. She was twice married. Her first husband was Samuell Cabell, a Devonshire gentleman who died in 1699. Her second husband was Richard Fownes, of Stapleton, in Dorsetshire, who left her a widow in 1714. She herself died in 1724, the date on the almsdish, so that it was in all probability a legacy. The arms are those of Cabell impaling Aysh, and were doubtless copied in error from the shield on her first husband's monument in the north transept of our church."

TATWORTH.—This is a new parish, and includes the southern portion of Chard parish. The church was opened in 1851. The plate consists of a chalice with date-letter for 1856, a paten of the year following, both these pieces of silver, and a plated flagon. [Communicated by the Rev. H. S. King, Vicar.]

WAYFORD.—Here is a diminutive yet beautiful Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. high; the bowl is trumpet-shaped with one band of well designed ornament with upright sprays at the intersections. The stem is short with a plain knop; on the foot is the egg and dart ornament. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark, the letters T.E. combined in a monogram; this mark is found on plate in two Dorset parishes in this very year. The cover is quite plain, with the same marks.

Two dishes of white metal, inscribed: Presented to Wayford Church by Anne, Eliza, and Maria, daughters of its late rector, Richard Symes Cox. June, 1858.

A pewter flagon, inscribed: Gul. Joh. Comper, D.D., *Ædi* Wayfordiensi, 1871.

WHITE STANTON.—The only piece of silver here is a small cup of the baluster stem pattern. It stands $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, and is perfectly devoid of ornamentation. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1658; maker's mark, the initials R.N. with a mullet above and beneath in a shield. On the bowl are the initials W.L., T.D., 1659, dotted in.

A glass cruet with silver mountings. Pewter, a flagon dish and small bowl. Of modern plated metal, a flagon, paten, and dish.

WINSHAM.—An Elizabethan cup and cover, though not of the same date, or by the same maker. The cup is a handsome specimen of I.P.'s work. It is $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, with a deep bowl encircled with two bands of ornament. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P. The cover is of the usual pattern, with one band of ornament; on the button the date 1573 is engraved. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark, the initials H.S. combined in a monogram within shield, probably Henry Sutton.

Another cup is of the baluster stem pattern with a broad and shallow bowl. As usual there is no ornament, for which there would have been plenty of room, for it stands $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, and the bowl is $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1654; maker's mark nearly worn away. It is inscribed: "A guift to the Church of Winsham." A plain paten on foot $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, with the same inscription as on the cup. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1708; maker's mark, the letters B O. with a small ornament beneath in plain shield, perhaps a variation of John Boddington's mark, which generally has a mitre above the letters.

A small flagon, tankard pattern, with the Sacred Monogram on drum. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1759; maker's mark almost obliterated. There is an inscription underneath: "To the Revd. Geo. Ware, M.A., as presented to him for the use of St. Stephen's Church, Winsham, by W. & A. Taylor, September, 1859."

ILMINSTER DISTRICT.

This portion of the Crewkerne Deanery contains twenty-four ancient parishes and one modern district. Elizabethan plate will be found in fifteen parishes.

ASHILL.—This parish has a handsome Elizabethan cup and cover, by the provincial maker, whose initials were M.H. (see introduction). The cup stands 7½in. high; the engraved bands are gilt. Round the lip, which follows the Exeter pattern, is a belt of the twisted cable pattern; round the middle of the bowl is a band of the conventional ornament; the knop is very thin. The cover has a band of the same ornament as on the bowl; on the button is an elaborate Tudor rose enclosing the date 1574. Marks (found on both pieces): (1) the initials M.H. combined in a monogram within a circle, (2) a cross with a pellet between the arms of the cross, also in a circle; no hall-marks or date-letter.

A salver on three feet, diam. 8½in. Marks: 2 offic.; date letter for 1769; maker's mark I.K. in oblong punch, perhaps Jeremiah King. In the centre is this inscription: "Ashill. Ex dono Thomæ Alford A.M. & P.W. qui hanc Patinam in usum hujusce Exclisiæ pro animi ardore dedicavit Decembris 25, 1769." In the church there is a monument to the memory of the donor, from which we learn that P.W. means prebendary of Wells.

BARRINGTON.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P., and so exactly resembling his other pieces as not to require a detailed description. On the button of the cover is the date 1573. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark I.P.

A plain paten on foot, diam. 7½in., with moulded edge. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1723; maker's mark, the initials T.T., the rest of the mark is obliterated, but probably that of Thomas Tearle. The paten is inscribed: "Hæc patella data fuit in usum sacræ ecclesiæ per Anna. Strode 1723." In

the centre of the paten is a crest—on a wreath a wyvern or dragon ramp. A small flagon on a wide-spreading foot. The marks are the same as on the paten, with the exception of the date-letter, which is for the year 1724. On the drum of the flagon, surrounded by mantling, is a shield bearing: Ermine, on a canton sa. a crescent arg. Crest, a demi-lion ramp. (Strode). Inscription: "Ex dono Gulielmi Strode Armigeri in usum ecclesiæ de Barrington 1724." William Strode was the fourth of that name in succession, and the third who lived at Barrington Court. His first wife, Anna, was the donor of the paten; unfortunately her maiden name is not known, and the crest is borne by too many families to supply a clue. He married, secondly, Jane Langhorne, and ob. s.p. 1745, his will being proved 25 Feb., 1746. See the pedigree of the Strode family in the *Proc.* xxx, ii 68, 69.

BEERCROCOMBE.—A small cup and cover by I.P. The cup is 6½ in. high; the bowl has two belts of the usual conventional ornament. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1572; maker's mark I.P. The cover is of the ordinary pattern, with a belt of ornament. On the button is the date 1573. Same marks as on cup.

An electro-plated flagon and a brass dish used as a paten.

BICKENHALL.—The vessels here are all electro-plate. They include a cup and paten, another paten on foot, a plate, and a flagon. Each piece is inscribed: "Bickenhall, 1841." They are very good of their kind.

BROADWAY.—Another cup, minus the cover, by I.P., and almost a fac simile of the one last described. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1572; maker's mark I.P.

A small salver with elegantly worked edge, on three feet. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1705; maker's mark P Y., below a rose and crown, *i.e.*, Benjamin Pyne.

An electro-plated flagon.

BUCKLAND S. MARY.—A handsome modern mediæval chalice and paten, silver-gilt and jewelled with appropriate

ornamentation and inscriptions. The date-letter is for 1873. Of the ancient plate there survives a flagon of the tankard pattern, 10½ in. high, silver-gilt. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1721; maker's mark, S L., with a pellet below in shaped punch, *i.e.*, Gabriel Sleath. It is inscribed: "De et Ecclesiæ de Buckland St^e Mariæ D.D. D^{na} Rosa Kymer, 1721." On the drum within mantling is a lozenge bearing: Three wolves courant in pale within a bordure bezantée [Kymer]; Imp., In chief two eaglets displayed, in base a mullet [Fownes]. Thomas Fownes, of Stepleton, Dorset, in his will proved 28 Nov., 1670, mentions his daughter Rose, the last but one of a long family all under age. This will is printed in Brown's *Somerset Wills*, series iv, 98, and the editors have added the information that Rose Fownes married at South Petherton, 10 Sept., 1701, Gilbert Keymer. The match was, no doubt, made while Rose was staying with her eldest brother, Richard, who had married Elizabeth, widow of Samuell Cabell, and daughter of William Aysh, of South Petherton (see notes on that place above). Gilbert Keymer inherited his property at Buckland from his remote ancestor, Ellis Keymer, of Pendomer, who married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of John Bevyn, of Lufton, ob., 1554. Gilbert died 21 Dec., 1711, aged 69, so recorded by Collinson (i, 21), who also sets down that Rose Kymer, his widow (the donor of the flagon), died on the 16th March, 1739-40, aged 39, which is, of course, a palpable error. The entries in the register, furnished by the Rev. W. H. Lance, rector of Buckland, show that the rest of the information may be relied on.

CURLAND.—The cup and cover are by the unknown provincial silversmith whose initials were M.H. (see introduction). The cup is 6½ in. high; round the lip of the bowl straightened up in the Exeter style is a band of interlaced fillets, the space between being left plain; there is another band of conventional ornament round the bowl, on the foot is a band of interlaced cable pattern. Marks: 1, M.H., combined in monogram with-

in circle ; 2, a cross with pellets in the angles, also within circle. The same marks are found on the cover ; this has a band of interlaced cable pattern ; on the button is engraved an elaborate Tudor rose inclosing the date 1574.

CURRY MALLET.—The Elizabethan plate here, though not by the same maker, greatly resembles that at Curland. Like that, it no doubt comes from Exeter, as the maker's name, hitherto unknown, is given at full length, but the distinctive mark of the Exeter mint is wanting. The cup is 6½ in. high ; the ornamentation and engraving are almost exactly that on the cup at Curland. The only mark is the maker's name enclosed in two punches—I. NORTH. The cover has the same mark ; on the button encircling a rose is a fillet enclosing the date 1574.

There is also a flagon, tankard pattern, with flat top, 10 in. high. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1620 ; maker's mark, I.H., with rose beneath, in shaped punch. On the drum there is dotted in a lozenge, bearing 6 mullets, 3, 2, 1 (Walsh). This single coat in a lozenge, azure and or, is to be seen on a monument in Curry Mallett church. On the monument is a figure of a kneeling woman with two smaller figures below. The inscription has vanished, and the registers not being in existence before 1653, the only clue to the age of the monument is the costume, which is that of the early seventeenth century. The head of the Walsh family lived at Cathanger, in the adjoining parish of Fivehead. John Walshe, justice of the Common Pleas, by his will proved 5 June, 1572, left to his half-brother, Thomas Walshe, of Stowey (a manor in Fivehead), certain lands in 'Stowey, Fyfet, Cory Mallet and Wrantage.' In Brown's *Somerset Wills*, ser. iv, pp. 8, 9, will be found wills of members of the Walshe family, resident at Fivehead, though of a rather later date than the flagon.

CURRY RIVEL.—There is rather more variety in the plate chest of this parish than is usual. The oldest pieces of the Communion vessels are a cup and cover of the early part of

the seventeenth century. The cup is $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. high with a deep bowl unadorned by any engraving, and a moulded foot. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1637; maker's mark, an anchor between the initials D.G. in shield. The cover is of the usual pattern without the useful flange found on the earlier pieces; it has the same marks as the cup, but the date-letter is two years earlier. Then there is another cup and cover of enormous proportions. The cup is $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. high; the bowl is 5in. across at lip, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. in depth, and 4in. in diameter at the base. Round this capacious vessel are two bands of interlacing fillets which enclose wavy lines, evidently a reminiscence of the Elizabethan ornamentation. There are some more patternings in the middle space, which are also repeated on the stem and foot. This part of the cup is also decorated with flat leaves appliqué round the bottom of the bowl and the stem. On the bowl is an inscription: "This was given By John Coâte for the use of the Parish of Curry Rivell Anno Dni. 1692." The only mark is a punch with scalloped edge containing the initials I.A., struck thrice. These initials in a punch of nearly the same shape are found on the paten-cover at Goathill, near Milborne Port, probably made in 1711, but without any other marks. The cover of the cup is of corresponding dimensions and ornamentation without any marks at all.

There is also here a beautiful little saucer or shallow tray. It is $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter; the interior is divided by raised lines into compartments with punched patterns. The two handles are shaped like scallop shells. On the shield in the central boss is the dedicatory inscription: "The guift of Alex. Jownes 1640." Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1634; maker's mark illegible. Another of these beautiful and valuable examples of domestic plate of the pre-rebellion era is at Charlton Musgrove in Bruton Deanery.

DONYATT.—The oldest piece of plate here is the cover of a vanished Elizabethan cup. It is of the usual pattern, with a band of running ornament round brim; on the button, 1574.

Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1574 ; maker's mark, I.P. A tall and plain cup of the ordinary early seventeenth century pattern, but the foot has no mouldings or flange, and approximates to the later flat-foot designs. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1639 ; maker's mark, I.S. with pellet below in shaped punch.

A silver-gilt paten of mediæval design with the dedicatory inscription : "Presented to Donyatt Church in memory of E.T.W. 1871." They are the initials of Edward Tristram, infant son of R. F. Woodward, Rector of Donyatt for about a year and a quarter previous to his death on 15th Oct., 1872. [Communicated by the Rev. A. B. C. Beechey, rector.]

DRAYTON.—This parish possesses a very fine example of the work of I. IONS, of Exeter, also found at Seaborough (see above). The cup stands 6½in. high ; the bowl has the rim or lip straightened upright in the distinctive Exeter pattern ; on the bowl is a band of ornament, with the interlacing fillets hatched ; there are bands of upright lines above and below the stem, and on the foot. The egg-and-dart ornament is also engraved on the foot. The knob, as usual, is very thin. Marks (struck twice) : Exeter ancient, *i.e.*, within a circle a X crowned between two pellets ; maker's mark, within oblong punch, IONS on bowl ; on foot, IONNS ; in either case without the initial I usually found before the surname. The cover is of the ordinary pattern with a Tudor rose on the button. Only marks, Exeter hall-mark and IONS. This maker's mark is found on plate within the period 1571-79.

A modern paten of mediæval design, inscribed : "Deo Gratias. Dedicated to the service of God in the Church of S. Catherine Drayton, September 6th, 1891." The donor was Mrs. Matterson, formerly resident.

FIVEHEAD.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. Both pieces exactly resemble the rest of his work. The cup is 6in. high. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1572 ; maker's mark, I.P. On the button of the cover is the date 1573,

Of pewter there are two dishes and one bason, besides a flagon of some plated metal.

HAMBRIDGE.—A modern parish formed out of Curry Rivel in 1844, with the ancient sinecure parish of Earnshill and detached portions of other places thrown in. The original set of vessels are electro-plate, comprising a cup, two patens, and a flagon. There are also a chalice and paten of white metal gilt, inscribed: "In memory of Charles Stephen Grueber, fifty-one years Vicar of St. James', Hambridge, 1843-1894." [Notes supplied by the Rev. C. L. Marson, Vicar.]

HATCH BEAUCHAMP.—A cup of the Georgian period, 7½ in. high, with an encircling rib round the bowl, on which is the Sacred Monogram. Marks nearly obliterated; the date-letter is for 1752. A large and plain paten on foot, 8 in. across. In the centre is the Sacred Monogram. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1713; maker's mark, an anchor between the letters P O—Thomas Port. Another cup with a cover, on the button of which is the date 1794. The cup is 5½ in. high, with a trumpet-shaped bowl. On the foot is engraved 'Hatch.' Marks: 3 offic.; date-letter for 1793; maker's mark G.B. in oblong punch. A silver dish, 9 in. across, with the date-letter for 1839.

ILE ABBOTTS.—The vessels are of plated metal; they comprise a cup, paten, salver, and flagon. There are also two pewter flagons of different measures, each initialled I.A.

ILE BREWERS.—Here there is an interesting Elizabethan cup by the same maker as of the cup at North Perrott. It stands 7¼ in. high, with a deep bowl. This has one band of ornamentation (gilt) with elaborate sprays below the intersections of the fillets. Under the bowl and on the spread of the foot is a peculiar design of link or chain ornament like that on the cup at West Chinnock (*Proc.* xlv. ii. 187). The knop is plain. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark, in a shaped shield a stag's head caboshed. The cover is much later; it is quite plain without any flange. Marks:

2 offic.; date-letter for 1760; maker's mark almost effaced. Pewter, two plates.

ILMINSTER.—The Elizabethan plate here is of an unusual design and date. The bowl of the cup (gilt within) is V shaped, and devoid of ornament, the stem and foot are of the baluster stem pattern, with the sloping foot without any mouldings to break the outline. The cup is $7\frac{1}{8}$ in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1592; maker's mark almost effaced, but perhaps a double-headed eagle, a mark given in O.E.P. under 1597. The cover is domical in outline, with an elaborate spirelet on the apex, instead of the usual flat button. It has the same marks as the cup.

A broad paten on foot, $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. across, with plain rim. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1633; maker's mark rather effaced, but probably the initials I.M. and a pig passant below.

Another paten and flagon of modern design, given by a former Vicar. The first piece is inscribed: Presented by J. H. Mules Clerk A.M. Vicar of Ilminster Easter 1848: S. John vi 35. On the flagon: "Presented by J. H. Mules Clerk A.M. Vicar of Ilminster Easter 1848 in memory of J. H. Mules Clerk A.M. late Vicar of Ilminster and 40 years Master of the Endowed Grammar School died July 4 1822 aged 67. Sarah his wife died March 12 1842 aged 82. Sarah Anne their daughter wife of Robert Young died July 31 1825 aged 41. Mary Anne wife of J. H. Mules Clerk A.M. died Oct. 23 1826 aged 36. Mary Anne Howard their daughter died May 5 1833 aged 16. John William their son died July 18th 1847 aged 22."

There is also a fine example of the Edmond's cup pattern, unfortunately deprived of its steeple. These handsome cups, of which examples have already been noted at Yarlinton, Horsington and Odcombe, were in vogue during the reign of James I. Though, of course, originally intended for domestic use, in the course of time a considerable number have been dedicated to the service of the Sanctuary. The general

appearance of such a cup will be best understood by examining the illustration of the Yarlinton cup in *Proc.* xliii, ii 187. The Ilminster cup is silver gilt, and 11½ in. high; the general style of ornamentation closely resembles the illustration in O.E.P., 5th edit., p. 303. On the shield, which forms part of the ornamentation of the bowl, are some very tantalizing flourishes in dotted work, which seem to include a monogram, but only one letter R at the beginning can be distinguished. The cover has lost its beautiful crowning steeple. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1611; maker's mark probably T above W in shield given in O.E.P. under 1607.

ILTON.—Here is an interesting cup of provincial manufacture combining Jacobean and Elizabethan details. The cup is designed after the Exeter pattern with the peculiar lip and small knop. It stands 8½ in. high, fully gilt. The ornamentation includes a belt of engraving work on the lip, and another round the centre of the bowl without the usual interlacing of the enclosing fillets or the flourishes appendant thereto. The running design includes representations of flowers and fruit. At the bottom and top of stem are bands of rude quatrefoils. Hyphens are found on the knop, running ornament and the egg-and-dart on the foot. The cover has a band of the same style. There are no marks of any kind, and the ornamentation though elaborate is rude in execution. On the button of the cover is the date '1610 + HVGE BRUM + THOMAS HICHENS + . [Compare the cup at Withycombe.]

There are also a cup and salver of plated metal and a pewter plate.

PUCKINGTON.—A handsome cup of the Caroline period. It is 7½ in. high, has a large bowl, stem with plain knop, and moulded foot. No ornamentation of any kind. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1637; maker's mark, an anchor between the initials D.G. The bowl is inscribed: Humfrey Sydenham, Rector—Ambrose Hutching, John Hawkins, Wardens. The rector was the fifth son of Humphrey Sydenham of Combe

Sydenham in Stogumber by Margaret, sister of John Lord Poulet. He was appointed rector in 1629, and was also rector of Odcombe. His eloquence procured him the title of Silver-tongued Sydenham, but his use of it in defence of Church and State caused him to be deprived of all his preferments, and 'multis incommodis circumventus' he died in or about 1650. A plain paten on foot, diam. 6½in. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1724; maker's mark nearly worn away.

Two pewter plates, an electro-plated flagon, and two glass cruets.

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP.—A good Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. The cup is 7in. high; it has two bands of conventional ornament round the bowl, hyphens on knop, and bands of the first-named ornament on foot and cover. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P. On the button of the cover is the date 1573.

There are also two modern chalices with patens silver-gilt. The larger chalice with the Birmingham date-letter for 1874 was designed by G. E. Street. The smaller chalice is inscribed: "In memoriam. C.L." Caroline Lethbridge, mother of the Rev. A. Lethbridge, rector of the parish. A small silver spoon with the date-letter for 1869. Electro, a salver.

STAPLE FITZPAINE.—The only piece of silver here is a small paten on foot. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1726; maker's mark, two initials in shaped punch, but so worn away as not to be identified. The paten is inscribed: "The Gift of W. Hare, G. Potts to y^e Parish Church of Staple Fitz Pain 1739."

The other vessels are electro-plate; two cups and a flagon.

STOCKLINCH MAGDALEN. An Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P., of his usual pattern. The cup stands 6½in. high; there are two belts of ornament round the bowl, and hyphen belts on knop and foot. The cover has a belt of ornament; on the button '1573.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P.

STOCKLINCH OTTERSAY.—An interesting Elizabethan cup of the Exeter pattern, with a poor cover. The cup is 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; the bowl is V-shaped, with the lip turned straight up. There is one band of well designed ornament, inclosed between intersecting hatched fillets. Above and below the stem are bands of upright strokes; on the foot two bands of egg-and-dart ornament. The knop is plain. The only mark is a hexagonal punch, inclosing an illegible design, which might be a headless cross.

The cover is quite plain, with a broad flat button. The only mark is a small oblong punch containing a indecipherable monogram struck thrice.

A handsome paten on foot, with engraved rim, 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1705; maker's mark, in shaped punch, W I=John Wisdom. On the paten a demi-lion holding a harp, the crest of the family of Jeffreys now merged in that of Allen of Stocklinch Manor.

A flagon and a dish of plated metal.

SWELL.—A very small parish with a very small cup and cover by I.P. The cup is 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, with the usual bands of ornament on bowl and foot; hyphens on knop. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1572; maker's mark, I.P. On the button of the cover, which has the same marks, is the date '1573.'

WHITE LACKINGTON.—A tall cup, with cover of the Jacobean period. The cup is 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. high; the bowl is quite plain, V shaped, with slight lip. On the stem is a rudimentary knop; the foot is worked with many mouldings. The bowl is inscribed: George Poole, John Manyng—Churchwardens, Whitlackington 1616. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1616; maker's mark a full-blown rose on a stem between two initials, the first an R, the second worn away, perhaps S. This mark is not known. The cover is quite plain; the marks are nearly worn away. On the button is engraved:

“ Wth purged soule like fined siluer pure Recceyue the bread,
wob doth for aye endure.”

A plain paten on foot, 7½ in. across. Marks: 2 offic. of
Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1712; maker's mark worn away.

DUNSTER DEANERY.

WIVELISCOMBE DISTRICT.

REV. PREBENDARY F. HANCOCK, M.A., F.S.A.

IN this district there are 24 ancient parishes and 2 chapelries; Elizabethan plate will be found in no less than sixteen.

The retired nature of portions of the Wiveliscombe District would lead us to expect that in its sequestered nooks we should find interesting examples of Church plate. Nor would such an expectation be disappointed. Out of the twenty-six ancient churches and chapels, sixteen possess pieces of Elizabethan plate; and at Nettlecombe are to be found the two earliest pieces of dated English goldsmith's work known to exist. These pieces, a chalice and paten, with the date-letter for 1479, were, it is recorded, confided to the care of 'Master John Trevelyan,' in 1549, and in the care of Master John Trevelyan and his descendants, the plate has always remained. This John Trevelyan's great-grandmother had brought to her husband the large estates of the Raleigh family in the West of England and Wales; and it is possible that this wealthy lady may have given the plate to the church which lay literally at her door. Notwithstanding the protection afforded to the plate by the accident of the place in which it has been kept, it must have been often in danger. Probably the influence of a man, whose relations were known to be powerful at Court, may have

saved it from the Puritanism of the Elizabethan period, but there was a time when it must have been very near to destruction. For we read that at the commencement of the Civil War, the Roundhead rector of Nettlecombe, Mr. Gay, led a "band of rascallions" against the Court for the purpose of burning it to the ground, and that he and his evil-minded crew were not driven off till the out-buildings up to the very door, were destroyed.

Though so heavily fined for his loyalty to Charles I, that he had to sell nearly everything he had, and his devoted wife had to travel to London to sue for her husband's pardon in a carriage drawn by oxen in the absence of horses, yet still, and the fact is to his credit, the 'squire of Nettlecombe of the day respected the costly plate within his charge. (See also under Nettlecombe).

Next, perhaps, to the Nettlecombe church plate, the two most interesting, although not the oldest pieces, are the cups at Carhampton and Treborough described below, one of which is of English, the other of foreign manufacture.

For a possible hypothesis of the existence of these cups in the parishes where they are found, we must again turn to Nettlecombe, premising that the cups may have been, to judge from their appearance, originally intended for domestic use.

Some 140 years ago, a maid sewing in a room in the older part of Nettlecombe Court, dropped her thimble from her finger. The thimble rolled away and fell through a crack in the oak floor. But the thimble was a precious one, and a board was taken up to seek for it. When lo! to the astonishment of the seekers, a quantity of Elizabethan and Jacobean plate was revealed to view, hidden beneath the floor. But the owner of Nettlecombe at the time did not care to retain the treasure so strangely discovered, and caused it to be sold. "Philistine, Philistine, Philistine," writes that ripe antiquarian and scholar, the late Sir Walter Trevelyan, in his diary, as he notes this unfortunate occurrence!

It appears unlikely that plate of the character of these two cups would have got into the hands of the clergy and their wardens, except through some similar channel to this. It seems, therefore, possible to the writer that these cups may have been purchased at this sale, and have been given to the respective churches by the purchasers or their representatives.

The writer would put in a plea for the preservation of the old pewter vessels, still to be found occasionally, belonging to our country churches. Some of the clergy and churchwardens who would cherish their silver plate most jealously, pay little heed to their pewter vessels. And yet these vessels, ugly and clumsy as they may appear to be, are full of interest and history. Notices of the pewter vessels, so far as they are known to exist, will be found under the different parishes. The Museum at Taunton Castle would provide a safe resting-place for those pewter pieces which are otherwise in danger of perishing from neglect.

BICKNOLLER.—The Elizabethan cup, unfortunately without its cover, is by the well-known Exeter goldsmith I. IONS, who also supplied the cups at Drayton and Seaborough. It stands 7½ in. high, and weighs 11oz. av. A band of foliage, conventionally treated, runs round the bowl, and is intersected by upright sprays of foliage in four places. On the stem is a knop; round the foot a band of the egg-and-dart ornament. Marks: (1) Exeter ancient; (2) I. IONS, in plain punches.

There is a plain paten on foot with a filleted edge; diam., 7½ in.; weight, 11oz. av. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1751; maker's mark, the initials I.M. above a tortoise. On the back of the paten is an inscription: "Farmer John Sweetyng and Henry Dobell Churchwardens." The Sweetyng family of Thorncombe were for a long period Lords of the Manor of Bicknoller. The name Dobell, under the form of Dibble, is still a familiar West Somerset one.

There is a modern electro-plate alms dish.

BROMPTON RALPH.—The parish possesses an Elizabethan

cup and cover by I.P., which do not differ from the rest of his work. The cup is $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, weight 10oz. av. The bowl is bell-shaped; it has two bands of conventional foliage, also found on the foot and the cover. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P. On the button of the cover is the date '1573.'

There is also another paten or salver on three feet. It is 7 in. in diameter and weighs 9oz. av. Round the rim is a design of acanthus leaves. Marks: 3 offic.; date-letter for 1790; maker's mark, H.C. = Henry Chawner. On the reverse is an inscription: 'S.H., J.B., Churchwardens.'

There is also a pitcher-shaped flagon with splayed foot of Sheffield plate.

CARHAMPTON. — Here is a cup, once gilt, of singular beauty. It is 8 in. high, and the bowl is $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. across at the lip. The bowl is exquisitely decorated with cherubs' heads, flowers and fruit, surrounded by arabesques. The lip is quite plain, and bears the date 1634. The bowl is connected with the knop by a slender stem strengthened with three brackets. The knop is pear-shaped; below, the stem swells out into a round decorated with more arabesques, and the splayed base below is ornamented with the egg-and-dart moulding. The cup weighs 10oz. av. Marks: no official nor date-letter; (1) berries in a shaped shield; (2) interlaced lines in ditto. [The absence of the Hall-marks, however, is no proof of foreign origin; and, while the foot and stem are very similar to other specimens of undoubted English work, the ornamentation of cherubs' heads seems to point to an ecclesiastical rather than a domestic use, and only in countries which, like England, had discarded the chalice-form for the cup would such a vessel be required. The date on the cup is that of the earlier part of the reign of Charles I, and so this cup, like the plate at Marston Bigot (*Proc.* xlv, ii, 168), may be due to that monarch's desire to raise the artistic taste of the nation: E. H. B.]

The paten is 8 in. in diam., and weighs 13oz. av. It has a



TREBOROUGH.

Chalice



CARHAMPTON.

Chalice.

moulded edge with shells at intervals. The date-letter is for 1810.

The flagon is 10½ in. high, weight 35 oz. av. It has a flat cover, a boldly bowed handle, and a splayed foot. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1746 ; maker's mark, W.W., S.R. within a cross-shaped shield. On the body of the flagon is a dedicatory inscription : 'The gift of the Reverend Mr. Wm. Lovelace. He was appointed to Carhampton in 1716, and died 29 Dec. 1754 in the 64th year of his age.' M.I. given in Savage's *History of Carhampton*, 1830, p. 293.

CHIPSTABLE.—The cup is of the late Georgian period, quite plain, except for the Sacred Monogram engraved within a medallion. The cup is 6½ in. high ; its weight is marked as 11oz. Marks : 3 offic. ; date-letter for 1792 ; maker's mark, P.B., in square shield. A paten and flagon of modern design, given by the late Mr. Capel of Bulland Lodge.

CLATWORTHY.—The cup is 8¾ in. high. The bowl is slightly bell-shaped, and rests on a long stem of the baluster pattern. There is no ornamentation of any kind. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter doubtful ; maker's mark, L.T., above a star. The cup is inscribed : "Dedicavit Henr. Lockett A.M. ecclesiæ suæ Clatworthy 1757." There is also a modern paten with the inscription : "D. D. John Warington Carew 1895." A silver almsdish ; marks : 3 offic. ; date-letter for 1797 ; maker's mark, R.S., in oblong punch=Robert Sharp, ent. 1789. It is inscribed : D. D. Jac. Camplin A.M. hujus ecclesiæ Rector Anno Dom : Jes : Christi 1797. The donor was a landowner and magistrate and a man of considerable importance generally in this district at the end of the last century.

There are a paten and flagon of Sheffield plate with appropriate ornamentation and inscriptions.

ELWORTHY.—An Elizabethan cup, 6 in. high, and weighing 8oz. av. Round the bowl are two bands of the customary foliage, divided by three upright sprays. The knop and the

foot have the hyphen decoration. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, only an I visible, but from the style, ornamentation, and the presence of two bands on the bowl, there is no doubt that it is I.P. The modern paten has the date-letter for 1863. There is also an electro-plated flagon of Gothic design.

FITZHEAD.—Here there is a beautiful Elizabethan cup and cover in good condition, by a hitherto unknown maker. The cup stands $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. high. The bowl is bell-shaped ; it has one band of foliage divided by four upright sprays ; and at the base of the bowl is a band of vertical hatching. The stem has a moulded knop. The foot has bands of hyphens and vertical hatchings ; this has been repaired. The cover has a band of conventional foliage ; on the button is the date '1574.' Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, a man's head within an oblong shield. Another paten on foot, with gadrooned edges, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1696 ; maker's mark, R.T., over a cross between two dots, within a shaped shield. In the centre of the paten is an inscription : "The gift of Mrs. Jane Cannon to the parish of Fitzhead 1710." The family of Cannon held Fitzhead Court for a considerable time, and their arms are depicted on the ceiling of the dining room there. Collinson (ii, 492) records several monuments in the church to their memory.

An electro-plated almsdish and flagon.

HUISH CHAMPFLOWER.—This parish possesses a tiny Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. The cup is $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. high, and weighs 7oz. 4dwt. troy. There are two bands of ornament round the bowl ; the hyphen belt is found on the knop ; and the foot has the egg-and-dart moulding round the edge. The cover weighs $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. troy. It has a band of ornament, and the date 1573 on the button. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I.P.

There is also a piece of plate which from the shape and appearance was probably a stand for a tea or coffee pot. It

is oval, 7in. by 5½in., weight 5oz. 9dwt., with a reeded rim, and stands on four reeded feet turned up at their ends. It is inscribed : "Huish Champflower, 1796." Marks : 3 offic. ; date-letter for 1795 ; maker's mark, P.B., A.B., in a shield—Peter and Anne Bateman, ent. 1791. A plated flagon, 10½in. high.

LEIGHLAND.—The cup here is of provincial make. It is 6½in. high ; the bowl is bell-shaped and 3½in. in diameter at lip ; the stem is of the baluster pattern ; there is no ornamentation. The only mark is that of the maker's initials, R.F., the first letter reversed struck four times. On the lip, "T.P., T.B., 1671." This is the probable date of the cup. Other vessels ; a small plated paten and flagon ; and a paten on a foot and a flagon, leather-bottle pattern, of pewter.

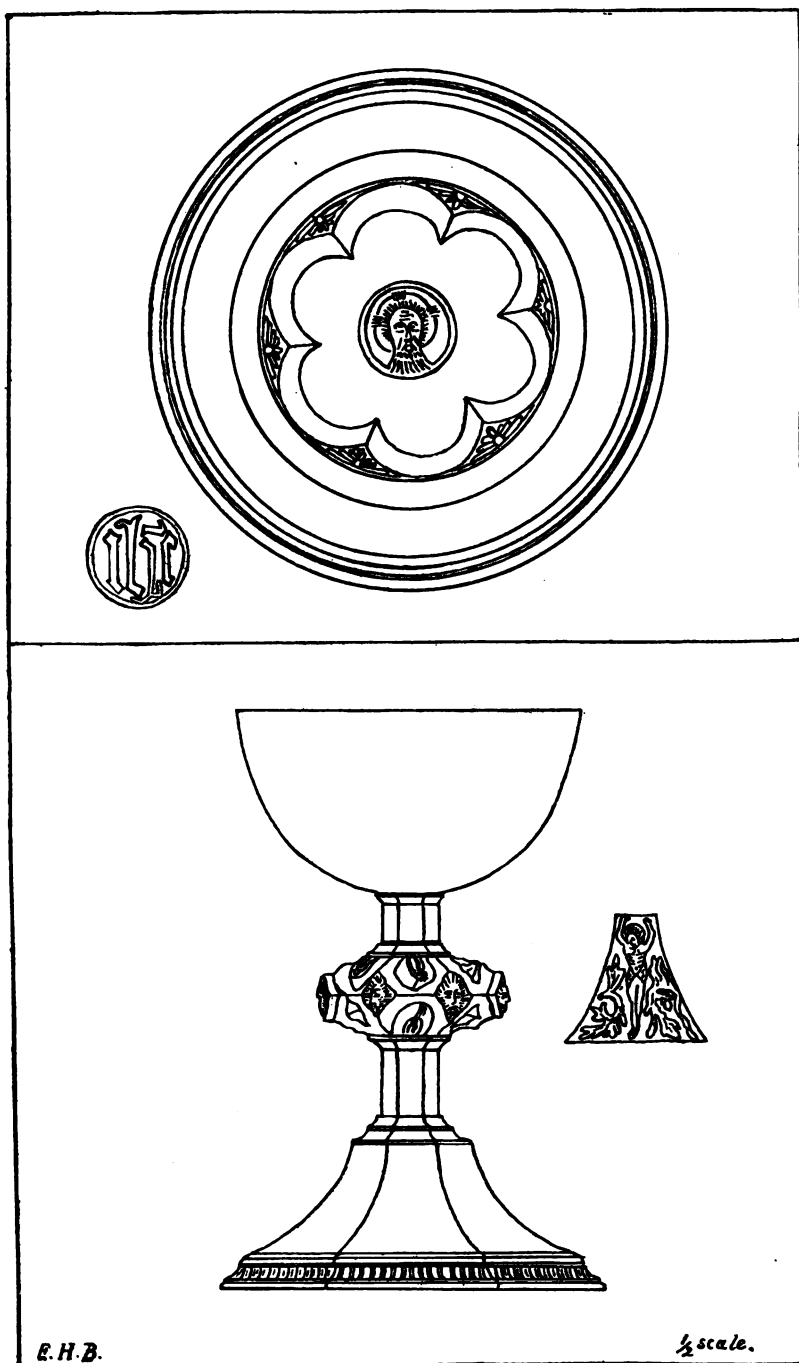
MONKSILVER.—A tall cup 8in. high ; the weight, 17oz. 3dwt. 2gr. is marked on it. The bowl is bell-shaped, 4in. in diam. at lip ; the stem has a moulded knop. There is no decoration of any kind. Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ; date-letter for 1716 ; maker's mark, the letters G.L., with a rose spray. The cup is inscribed : "Ecclesiæ parochialis de Monksilver, 1717." The paten with a moulded edge, weight 10oz. 14dwt., is on a foot ; it is 8in. in diam. Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ; date-letter for 1716 ; maker's mark, the letters L O. beneath a key within a shield—Nathaniel Lock, goldsmith, of London, ent. 1698.

There is a modern salver and glass flagon ; also an antique pewter platter, 7in. in diam., with the initials R.W. stamped in the centre.

NETTLECOMBE.—The real mediæval chalice and paten belonging to this church are of the greatest interest. They are not only very beautiful and in perfect condition, although they have been in regular use, as far as is known, since they were provided for the use of the parish, but they are also the oldest pieces of English goldsmith's work bearing a date-letter known to exist. The late Mr. O. Morgan first attracted notice to the plate by an elaborate article in the *Archæologia*

xl.iii. 405, accompanied by coloured lithographs of the chalice and paten of the actual size of the originals. From these the outline drawings were prepared for Mr. Cripps' book on "*Old English Plate*," 6th edit., 1899,¹ who has allowed them to be reproduced. Mr. Morgan describes the chalice and paten : "The chalice stands 5½ in. high. The bowl is in form between a cone and a hemisphere, that is, the bottom is broad and round, whilst the sides continue straight and conical, a form which is rather indicative of its date. This bowl is supported on a hexagonal stem divided into two portions by the knop, which is a beautiful piece of goldsmith's work, formed by the projection from the angles of the stem of six short square arms, each terminating in a lion's mask, or in proper heraldic language a 'leopard's head,' and having the intermediate spaces filled up with elegant flowing Gothic tracery of pierced open work. The lower part of the stem rests on a curved hexagonal foot, being united to it by Gothic mouldings, and the foot terminates in an upright basement moulding, which is enriched with a small vertically reeded band. One of the six compartments of the foot was ornamented, as is usual in ancient chalices, by a representation of the crucifixion. The metal of this compartment has been cut out, and a silver plate, engraved with the crucifixion, has been rudely riveted in. This silver plate is, I think, the original work, and it was formerly enamelled—for it would probably have been found easier and more convenient to prepare the enamel on a small separate plate and then fix it in its place, than to have submitted the whole chalice to the heat of the enameller's furnace, which must have been the case had the enamel been done on the foot itself. The silver plate is deeply engraved, or rather the metal is tooled out to receive transparent enamel in the style of the work of the fourteenth or the beginning of the fifteenth century, and small traces of the enamel with which

1. The illustrations are taken by permission of Mr. Cripps from his "*Old English Plate*," the sixth edition of which has just appeared.



NETTLECOMBE.

Chalice and Paten, 1479.

it has been filled may still be discovered. It will be seen at once that the design was made for the place from the peculiar attitude of the figure, the arms being drawn up over the head to adapt it to the form of the compartment.

The paten is 4½ in. in diameter, with a narrow moulded edge and a brim like an ordinary plate, within which is sunk a six-lobed depression. The centre points from which the workman formed the lobes are still visible, and the spandrels between the lobes are filled with a small radiating ornament as is usual in similar patens, which are not unfrequently met with. In the centre is a still further depression, in which has been inserted from the back a small silver plate, having in transparent enamel sunk in the metal, a representation of the vernicle, or face of our Saviour, surrounded by a cruciform nimbus. It, fortunately, remains perfect. This central depression, with an inserted plate of enamel is very unusual, the surface of patens being usually made as smooth as possible. The back of this small plate is gilt and engraved with the sacred monogram in black letter of the fifteenth century."

The hall-marks on each piece are quite distinct. They are : (1), the leopard's head ; (2), the date-letter for 1479, a capital Lombardic B with double cusps ; the maker's mark, a dimidiated fleur-de-lys. The other official mark, the lion passant, is not found before 1545.

Mr. Morgan then goes on to give this very interesting extract from the churchwardens' accounts, or rather from a loose sheet of paper therein : " Be yt knowyng unto all men that we parÿsners of Nyttylcombe have delivered unto Mester John Trevelyan Esquyer, on the xxvijth day of Januerye yn the yere of the Rayne of Kynge Edwarde the Syxte, the secunde yere of hys Rayne (1548-9), one challes w^t a paxe of sylver and a Pyxe of sylver gylytde, and a Calopynne, w^t iij bells of sylver gylytde w^{yn} the same pyxe, at all tymes at the nede to be had of the aforesaid Mast^r John Trevelyan Esquyre. —By me, John Trevelyan."

The bells, the pyxe, and the calopynne (a hand-warmer) have disappeared. The chalice is the one still in use; and Mr. Morgan makes it clear that the pax is really the paten, and that there is either a simple error in description; or that the paten having the vernicle represented on it, may have been used as a pax.

The date makes the transfer very significant. The Parliament which met in the autumn of 1547, 4th Nov., decreed that all chantries, etc., with their belongings, should be at once suppressed, and their goods taken for his Majesty's use. A royal Commission issued on 13th Feb., 1547-8, appointed Commissioners to do the work, and before the year had expired it had been done in Somerset. Nettlecombe lost the chantry of S. John Baptist, founded in the parish church by Sir Simon de Raleigh, 18 Hen. VI, 1440, together with the plate thereunto belonging. The parishioners being very doubtful what further acts of sacrilege might be intended, ingeniously contrived to be able to return 'No goods,' with a clear conscience, to any further Commissioners. Happily their scheme proved successful, all credit be to them for it. [For the information concerning the Chantries the writer is indebted to Mr. E. Green's "Somerset Chantries," *Somerset Record Society Publications*, vol. II.—E. H. B.]

OLD CLEEVE.—There is here an Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. of his usual style. The cup is 8in. high; the usual two bands of ornament run round the bowl; the knop has the hyphen band, and the foot has a reeded edge. The cup weighs 8oz. av. The cover weighs 2oz. av.; it has a band of ornament, and on the button, '1573.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P.

There is another paten, platter-shaped, 7½in. in diam., weight 12oz. av. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1639; maker's mark, initials O.E. The paten is inscribed: "Deo Opt: et Max: et Eccliac veteris Cleeve obtulit Helena Bickham vidua in die feste Paschalis A^o. Dm. 1640." The Bickhams were a

very ancient West-Somerset family. Aldred Byccombe of Old Cleeve, clothier, in his will made 1610, proved 1611, made his wife Helen his executrix. Her will was proved in 1646 (Brown, *Somerset Wills*, ii, 67, 68).

There are a plated paten and flagon, and a large pewter, tankard pattern, 15in. high, and 7in. across the foot.

RADDINGTON.—There is here an Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is 6½in. high; the bowl is bell-shaped, and has a band of foliage round the bowl. The knop and foot have hyphen ornament. There are no marks visible. The lip has been roughly repaired in two places, and as the marks are to be found there during this period, they may have been obliterated in the process. The cover has one band of ornament; on the button the date '1574.' The marks are undecipherable.

There are a modern paten and flagon, each bearing the inscription: "Presented to the Parish of Raddington by the Revd. John Hayne 32 years Rector. James Willis Churchwarden 1877."

Of pewter there are two plates; on their brims are the initials I.Y. C.W. 1799 = John Yandle churchwarden. The Yandles or Yeandles are an old yeoman family of that district. Also a pewter bason and a flagon, the latter inscribed: "Thomas Skinner Church Worden in the yeare of 1719."

RODHUISH.—This is an ancient chapelry attached to Carhampton. It possesses a silver cup and paten. The cup is 7¾in. high, and weighs 10oz. av. The bowl is of a deep cup shape, without decoration; the stem has a knop with filleted ornament; the foot has a reeded edge. The paten is 6½in. in diameter; it is platter shaped, with a reeded edge. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1779; maker's mark, W.C. Each piece is inscribed: "The gift of Richard Escott to Rodhuish Chapple 1780." The Escotts of Escott were a family of considerable position in Carhampton parish for many generations. For an account of this and other bene-

factions by Richard Escott to Rodhuish, see Savage's *History of Carhampton*, p. 323 *seq.*

There is also an electro-plated flagon.

ST. DECUMAN.—The oldest cup is of a very unusual shape, and as there are no marks or engraved date, one is thrown back on the general style of decoration to determine its age. The cup is $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, the diameter of lip is $4\frac{1}{2}$ in., and the weight 12oz. av. The bowl is bell-shaped, with a spreading lip. This has a single hatched fillet. Just below the junction of lip and bowl are two hatched fillets inclosing a belt of the usual Elizabethan leaf-ornament, but without any upright sprays at the intersections. The stem is cone-shaped, with the point removed; there are two annular bands just below the bowl. The circular foot is almost flat; this rests on a pedestal half-an-inch high, the upper part of which forms a rim round the foot. The pedestal has a reeded band round the outside. This is probably an Elizabethan cup with a later stem and foot.

The second cup is of an extraordinary size, being 12 in. high, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. across the lip, and weighing 29oz. av. The bowl is of a deep bell-shaped design. The foot is moulded; it is 5 in. in diameter. The cup is inscribed: "Saynt Decuman's 1634." Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1634; maker's mark, R.C. over a broad-arrow in heart-shaped punch. This must have been a well-known maker, as the mark is found on plate at Exeter Cathedral and St. Margaret's, Westminster. There are two patens of the same date as the cup, but the one with the same marks as the cup does not appear to be nearly so good a match. It is only $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, and weighs 8oz. It was for a long time used without the cup, which was only recovered within recent years. The other paten is $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter, and weighs 12oz. av. It has a raised rim, but is otherwise quite plain. On the reverse of the paten is dotted in: "Saynt Decuman's 1634." Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1634; maker's mark, I.M. above a pig passant in shield, found on other plate in this diocese.

There is a modern flagon, handsomely engraved, and inscribed : "To the glory of God and in memory of William, Mary Anne, and William Gimblett, Easter 1896. C. H. Heale, Vicar." The flagon has a stand inscribed : S. Decuman's Somerset, C. H. Heale, Vicar." There is also a stand for the cruets, weighing 6oz., with the same inscription. A curious plated bowl, with a plain, apparently silver, edge.

SAMPFORD BRETT.—The cup with its cover are by the Elizabethan goldsmith, I.P. The cup is $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. high and weighs 7oz. av. The bowl is bell-shaped and has the usual two bands of running ornament. The knop and the foot have the hyphen ornament. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I.P. The cover has the same marks ; it weighs $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz. av. There is a band of conventional foliage ; on the button, '1573.'

A paten on foot, diam. $7\frac{1}{2}$ in., weight 12oz. av. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1720 ; maker's mark, I.C. within a heart-shaped shield = Joseph Clare. In the centre of the paten is a shield bearing : Three torteaux, a label (Courtenay) ; imp., Three lozenges erm. (Gifford of Brightley) ; and this inscription : "The gift of Elizabeth Courtenay." The manor of Sampford Brett belonged for many generations to the house of Courtenay. It eventually descended to the junior branch at Molland Botreaux. John Courtenay, the last of the family, married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Gifford of Brightley. On his death in 1732, Sampford was divided between his heirs.

A large flagon, tankard pattern, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, weight 40oz. av. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1776 ; maker's mark, W.C., also found at Rodhuish. It bears a dedicatory inscription : "The gift of Anne Tanner to the Church of Sampford."

SKILGATE.—This parish, like the last, has an Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. The cup is $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. high, and weighs 8oz. av. The ornamentation on either piece does not differ from the usual pattern. On the button of the cover is the date

'1573.' Marks : 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I.P.

There are a paten and flagon of electro-plate, another flagon of pewter, and two blocktin plates with the initials H.H., W.L.

STOGUMBER.—The cup is silver-gilt, 9in. high, weight 15½oz. av. The bowl is 4in. in diam., bell-shaped, without decoration. The stem has a moulded knob. Round the under-side of the foot is an inscription : "Dedicated unto God for his only holy servys in the Church of Stogomer An. Do. 1615." Marks : 2 offic.; date-letter for 1615 ; maker's mark, a fleur-de-lys or rose spray within an indented shield.

The paten is of the usual design on a foot 7½in. in diam., weight 9½oz. av. It has a moulded edge and foot. Marks : 2 offic.; date-letter for 1733 ; maker's mark, R.B. in plain oblong=Richard Bayley. On the paten is a lozenge, bearing : Three inescutcheons and two mullets (Hay). A pretty story attaches to the appearance of the arms of the Scotch family of Hay at Stogumber. One hundred and sixty years ago or so the Squire of Stogumber parish and owner of Hartrow manor there situate was a very young man bearing the ancient West Somerset name of Rich, and of great estate. He plighted his troth to Miss Hay, the fair daughter of Prebendary Hay, rector of Clatworthy ;¹ but, alas, died before the day fixed for the wedding. By his will he left all he had to Miss Hay as an inscription on his monument in Stogumber church touchingly records. [Thomas Rich of Hartrow, Esq., died 30 April, 1727, aged 24 ; Coll., iii, 549.] She lived single in the home which she had hoped to have shared with him, spending her years in works of charity. And one of her good deeds was the gift of this paten to the parish church. She also gave the flagon, a huge vessel a foot high and weighing 50oz. av. It is of the tankard pattern, and has the same coat of arms and marks as the paten.

1. James Hay, M.A., appointed 1707, died 1718 ; *Weaver*, "Incumbents," p. 335.

TOLLAND.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by a maker whose mark has not hitherto been noted in the county. The cup is $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. high; weight, 8oz. av.; the bowl is $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, of the usual shape, and decorated with one band of foliage divided by three upright sprays. The knop on the stem is plain. Round the foot is a decorative band of medallions joined by broad hyphens. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, A., first found in 1567. The cover weighs 3oz.; it has the hyphen decoration; on the button is the date '1574.'

Another paten on a foot is $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., and weighs 4oz. It is quite plain with a deep rim. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1635; maker's mark, the initials D.G. within an anchor.

Another paten, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, and weighing 4oz. av. It is a platter shape and quite plain. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1636; maker's mark P.B., between two crescents. The paten is inscribed: "From Edward Crosse, Rector to the Church of Tolland, 1833."

The above is a singularly fine collection of plate for such a tiny church.

TREBOROUGH.—The handsome cup in use in this parish appears to have been originally intended for domestic purposes. It is $8\frac{1}{10}$ in. high, and weighs $10\frac{1}{2}$ oz. av. The general design is that of the Edmonds cup, but on a smaller scale, and without the elaborate cover. The bowl is $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, and resembles a wine-glass in shape; the lower part is decorated with flowers and fruit in repoussée work. Three ornamental brackets strengthen the attachment of the stem and bowl. About halfway down the stem is a broad flange, below which the stem gradually spreads out to form the foot, which is decorated with the egg-and-dart moulding. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1614; maker's mark, undecipherable. The cup is inscribed: "The gift of Hugh Bennett, Rector of Treborough, 1790."

There are two patens and a flagon of Sheffield plate.

UPTON.—There is a small Elizabethan cup here, unfortunately minus its cover. The cup is 6in. high; the bowl is slightly bell-shaped, and has two bands of the customary decoration. The knop and the foot have belts of hyphens. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, L.P.

The paten and flagon are electro-plate; of pewter, there are a pewter paten, with moulded edge, inscribed: "1720, T.G., R.M.," a large flagon and an alms dish.

WEST QUANTOXHEAD (*St. Audries*). — The plate is modern. It consists of a chalice and paten, parcel-gilt, and a flagon of mediæval design.

WILLITON.—The Elizabethan cup and cover are from the Exeter maker, I. IONS. The cup is 6½in. high; the bowl is bell-shaped with the distinctive lip; there is one band of ornament divided by four upright sprays. The stem has a moulded knop; the foot has a belt of pellets, and another of the egg-and-dart ornament. Marks: (1) Exeter ancient; (2) I. IONS. The paten has been broken; on the button is the date 1574, between some rough leaf pattern ornament. A plate 8½in. in diam., with a reeded edge. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1679; maker's mark, L, with a serpent twined round it. The plate is inscribed: "The gift of Philippa Harle to the Chapple of Williton, 1694." It has the appearance of being a piece of domestic plate, presented by the above pious lady to the Chapel. The name Harley still lingers about Williton. There is a complete set of electro-plate vessels, which was presented by the Rev. J. Heathcote, of Shore Hill, Wilts, in 1854. There are some pewter vessels belonging to the Chapel, but they are in the hands of a farmer.

WITHIEL FLOREY.—The oldest cup and cover are of the Elizabethan era. The cup is 6½in. high; the bowl is 3½in. in diam. at lip; it is of the inverted truncated cone shape, and has a lip of the distinctive Exeter pattern. Below the lip is a band of hyphen decoration inclosed between fillets. Bands of

vertical hatching are placed at the top and bottom of the stem, and on either side of the knop. On the foot is a band of hyphen decoration, and below this a band of hollow lozenges enclosing pellets. Under the foot: "S. Mary Magdalen, Withiel Flory, renovated June, 1867. W. Martin Honnybun, Incumbent." The two marks are almost obliterated, but they appear to those of the maker hitherto unknown, who made plate for several parishes round Ilminster (see general introduction). The cover has a band of hyphens, and another band of vertical hatching on the flange. On the button is a band of hatching within arabesques. The two marks are almost obliterated, but they are most probably the same as on the cup.

Of electro-plate there are a cup, two patens, and a flagon. Of pewter, two dishes, one inscribed: 'John Hancocke Churchwarden 1738'; the other, 'Withiel Church.' Also an interesting old pewter flagon, 10½ in. high, of tankard pattern. It is inscribed: 'Mr. John Wood of Wythell Church Warden 1723.' The Woods were a family of some importance in this parish at the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century, and a curious monument exists in the churchyard to a Mr. John Wood, perhaps the father of the churchwarden, who died in 1691 (?)

WITHYCOMBE.—The cup and cover, though without marks or date, are probably late Elizabethan or Jacobean. The cup is 7½ in. high, and weighs 9oz. The bowl is straight-sided, wider at the top than the bottom; round it is a band of foliage with birds and flowers enclosed within fillets. This style of decoration points to a late date. The knop is plain, with a cable pattern on either side. On the foot is another wide band of foliage. [Compare the cup at Ilton]. The cover weighs 2½ oz. av., and is 4½ in. in width. It has a deep band of conventional foliage. The trumpet-shaped stem of the button is decorated with punched work.

The flagon is of the round-jug pattern, with a boldly-bowed

handle. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1767 ; maker's mark, W.W. The flagon is inscribed : "The gift of the late Rector the Reverend Mr. Samuel Rogers to the Church of Withycombe 1767." His monument is in the church ; he died 26 Jan. 1767 aged 79. (Collinson, ii 48). A plated paten.

WIVELISCOMBE.—The Elizabethan cup and cover are by I.P., and resemble his other work. The cup is 7½in. high, and weighs 11oz. troy. There are the two usual bands of ornament round the bowl, and other conventional patterns round the knop and foot. The cover weighs 3oz. troy ; on the button '1573.' Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I.P.

An exact replica of this cup and cover was made and presented in 1876. They are inscribed : "Presented to S. Andrew's Church Wiveliscombe by Lavinia Sully 1876." The donor was the daughter of Doctor Sully of this place, a physician of some eminence.

Another paten on foot with gadrooned borders, 7½in. in width. Marks : 2 Brit. sterling ; date-letter for 1713 ; maker's mark not very clear, perhaps V I. with a star between in plain punch = Edward Vincent, and entered in O.E.P. under this very year. The paten is inscribed : "The gift of Elizabeth Michell to the Communion Table of Wiveliscombe 1713." This family were of ancient standing in West Somerset, and the lady's sister perhaps or aunt married Philip Hancock of Lydeard S. Laurence in 1708.

There is yet another paten, 8in. across. It bears the Exeter Hall-mark and date-letter for 1759, but no maker's mark.

The flagon is 13in. high, and weighs 34oz. troy. It is a very elegant piece of plate of the Flaxman style of design, ewer-shaped with gadroon ornament. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1782 ; maker's mark, A. in square punch.

Wudford and its Church.

BY JOHN BATTEN.

IT is now generally admitted that the Southern Counties, if not the more remote parts of England, were studded with parish churches long before the Norman Conquest, and that their omission from the Domesday survey is quite compatible with their existence, as they were not liable to the taxation, which it was the object of the survey to record. The companions of the Conqueror, however, who shared in the fruits of his victory, and their successors, must have been sadly at a loss how to dispose satisfactorily of the Church patronage which fell to their lot, and were, no doubt, besieged by hungry applicants for a slice of it. It is by no means clear what were the exact rights of ownership over an "ecclesia," conferred on the grantee of the manor to which it was appendant. From one point of view it may be supposed to extend only to the advowson or right of presentation ; but that implies some episcopal control, whereas there is no trace of any confirmation by the bishop in foundation charters of that early period, and tithes and portions of tithes were alienated in favour of religious houses at the sole will of the owner, without control either episcopal or otherwise.

From another point of view, it may be asked, was the right personal to the lord as a manorial right, or did it pass to the tenant who held under him ; in the prior case (taking the Montacute foundation charter as an example) the grant by the

lord (the Earl of Moretain) alone was sufficient to give it validity, but in the latter, the concurrence of both lord and tenant was necessary, the one as over-lord and the other as terre-tenant. On the whole it may be surmised whether it was not from motives of prudence as well as piety, which induced the Norman lords, under the advice, probably, of their bishops, to relieve themselves of the responsibilities entailed on them by their spiritual possessions, and to transfer them to religious establishments of their own foundation, by whom they would, in their judgment, be perpetually and more wisely administered.

If there be any ground for such a theory, it may have influenced William, Earl of Moretain, in his foundation of the Priory of Montacute. His original endowment of it included no less than fourteen churches in Somersetshire and the adjoining counties, that of Mudford being included as "the manor, church, hundred and mill of Modiforde."

Beyond this foundation charter and the Royal charters confirming it, there is no mention of the church of Mudford in the Montacute Cartulary, lately printed by the Somerset Record Society, until the episcopate of Roger, Bishop of Bath and Wells (1244 to 1247), who confirmed, by *Inspeximus*, a charter of "Theodoric, son of William," whereby with the consent of Beatrix his wife, and Henry and William his sons, he conferred, as lord of the soil, the church of Modiford on Joceline, the Prior and the Monks of Montacute "in pure and perpetual alms." The charter (No. 48 of the Wells Cathedral Charters, *Hist. Comm. Report*, see appendix to this paper) is undated, but from other deeds in the Cartulary it appears that Joceline was Prior in 1187, and that Durand, his successor, was in office in 1192.

As the Priory had held the church more than 100 years under the Earl of Moretain's grant, this charter must have been only a confirmation by Theodoric, the then lord of the fee, and is an example of the caution of monasteries in fencing

the title to their estates by procuring confirmatory grants from the actual and expectant heirs of the original donor.

But in this instance, it may be that the Priory was influenced by the fact that they were about to dispose of their right to this church, for by a co-temporary charter (No. 25 in the same collection), but scarcely legible from mutilation, it appears that Mark the Prior and the convent, in gratitude to Jocelin, Bishop of Bath, for appropriating to them the churches of Montacute and East Chinnock, granted the church of Modiford to that Bishop and his successors in perpetuity, saving always the tithes of their demesne comprising, amongst other lands, Bernarde'scrofte, Bimphegh, Bimphehort, Estinlond, Blakepol, Middlefurlong, La Sulue, Tonfurlong, Ferncroft, Eldelond, Westinlond, La Breche, Two Meadows, Estmede and Northmede, and the mill held by the miller in villenage. The witnesses to this charter were Master William, Archdeacon of Wells, Master Walter de St. Quintin, Lord (Dominus) Henry, parson of Tintenhull, Robert, Clerk of Cynnock, Robert de Aula and others. Given in the Chapter at Montacute on the feast of the Blessed M anno nono [—]. Notwithstanding that, upon the face of it this grant was a pure piece of gratitude to the Bishop for his kindness to the convent, it may be questionable whether the whole affair was not a commercial transaction for exchanging the church of Mudford for the appropriation of the churches of Montacute and East Chinnock, for although such "chopping of churches" would savour in modern times of simony, such an offence would be overlooked if it had episcopal sanction. Religious houses were not very scrupulous in dealing with spiritualities. Many instances can be found in which they trafficked in churches and in the foundation of chantries, oratories, and such like; and investigation would reveal the fact that their prayers were generally *purchased* by those who sought to secure a perpetual sanctuary for their souls.

The cautious monks did not rely for their title to their

demesne at Mudford upon the saving clause in the grant as that document would be in the hands of the Bishop, and they therefore took a new grant from the Bishop, dated on the feast of St. Michael A.D. 1239. It is No. 182 in the Montacute Cartulary, and enables us to supply accurately the names of the demesne lands contained in the above mentioned mutilated charter.

As already remarked the ostensible motive for the grant of the Church of Mudford, was, no doubt, the appropriation to the Convent of the Churches of Montacute and East Chinnock, the advowsons of which they already possessed by the foundation Charter of the Earl of Moretain. There is fortunately amongst the Charters in the Bodleian Library (No. 46), the original instrument of appropriation by Bishop Jocelin, and as the transaction is so closely connected with the transfer of the Church of Mudford to the Bishop, a summary of its contents will not be out of place here.

The Bishop who styles himself, *of* is described by the writer as "*Salisburyensis Episcopus*," tells us (in a charter dated in the month of March, in the thirty-second year of his episcopate—which term is unusually varied in this instance to pontificate), that out of consideration for the poverty of the Cluniac house of Montacute, and the necessity for better provision for their exercising the duty of hospitality, and after taking counsel of practical men and those learned in the law, he had ordained that at the next vacancies the prior and convent might convert to their own uses the churches of Montacute and Chinnock, of which they had the patronage, subject to a proper endowment for a vicarage in each church, this being the only point on which he and his successors had a right to require. Accordingly the vicarage of Montacute was to consist of all the small tithes (except those from the demesne lands of the prior and convent); also of all oblations and altar-offerings except those at the chapel of Hamedone and the castle chapel. A corrody of one monk was to be appropriated to it, and the monks were to give

up to it the candles and wax offered at Candlemas, and the offerings at the two first masses on Christmas Day and those on Good Friday, which they had been accustomed to receive. Indeed, the vicar was to have all the offerings of the entire parish, with the single exception of the corn tithes. The grange that belonged to the parsonage, together with one half of the yard between the wall of the old grange and the outer wall of a certain house, next to the gate, by which the parson's court was wont to be entered, were to become the property of the monks, but they were to make a sufficient fence between the grange and their yard and the court, which was to become the property of the vicar, nor was there to be any opening in this fence in the direction of the vicar's house, which used to belong to the parsonage, but was now to be his. As a final condition, the monks were to assign to whomsoever should be vicar, all and every tithe from the whole of the land in the parish of Montacute, known by the name of 'la hyda.'

As to the vicarage of the church of Chinnock, it was to consist of all the small tithes of the parish, except those from the demesne of the prior, of all the altar-offerings, of the hay tithes, of the whole demesne of the church there, and of all other offerings of the entire parish; the monks, for their part, were to have nothing but the corn tithes, the granges which belonged to the parsonage, and the "churechsectum;" they were to put up a sufficient fence to separate these granges from the vicar's manse, which had belonged to the parsonage, but was then to be the vicar's own.

The vicars were thenceforward to serve the churches in person honestly and properly. They were to answer to the archdeacon and his successors for the "sinodals" and "cathedraticum" (which the bishop now doubled in compensation for the archdeacon's rights), and for the archdeacon's procuration; they were also to bear all charges on their churches, including all those due by custom to the bishop and archdeacon, except those relating to the repair and restoration of the chancels,

books, vestments, and ornaments, or even the construction or provision of new ones. These charges, with any that might be made of an extraordinary kind, were to be apportioned between them (the vicars and the monks) *pro rata*.

On the occurrence of a vacancy the monks of Montacute were to present fit persons to the bishop or his successors to fill the vicarages. It was especially forbidden that the vicars should bind themselves to pay any annual pension or any other rent to the prior and convent in connection with their churches. Further provisions followed for the purpose of securing the carrying out of this ordination of the vicarages of Montacute and Chinnock without giving rise to litigious questions respecting the episcopal jurisdiction, but this portion of the instrument has become almost illegible.

Nothing further is recorded of the church of Mudford until the year 1340 (13 Edw. III) when it had been appropriated "by the Canon" to the Dean and Chapter of Wells. John de Tavistock, the Vicar, then complained that the income of the vicarage was insufficient to support the charges on it; for although he had certain houses and gardens adjoining the churchyard, and the small tithes with oblations and mortuaries, he was obliged to provide a priest to assist him. The Dean and Chapter therefore agreed to increase the vicarage by an annuity of forty shillings to be paid "out of our Infirmary;" but the Vicar and his successors were to find the assistant priest, to bear all archdeaconal burdens, to find bread, wine, and lights for the celebration of divine offices, and to repair and rebuild the vicarage house when requisite.

Coming down to modern times, we have a Terrier of the Parsonage and Vicarage of Mudford, made in the year 1634, during the incumbency of John Bois, the Vicar. It states that there belong to the Parsonage, one dwelling-house and garden, a barn, dove-house, and outbuildings adjoining, containing four acres, Item the home closes of arable, sixteen acres, Item two closes of arable lying at Waymhill, within thir-

teen acres, Item one close of arable called Shortlands, four acres, and one close of pasture called Milbreet, four acres and one close of pasture called Little Adber, two acres, and one other close of arable called Littlefield, two acres, and one little close of meadow or pasture called Pound's Close, containing, by estimation, one acre Item the first share of one acre of meadow lying in Tenenton meadow, within the manor of Nether Adber Item two acres of meadow lying in Muddyhame Item the parsons to have the tenth cheese or tenth cock of all manner of corn grown and cut within the parish of Mudford yearly, and also the tenth cock of all grass there mown and made yearly. That there belong unto the Vicarage one dwelling-house and other outhouses adjoining, with an orchard and two gardens, and one little close of arable, one acre and half, Item for Tithes due in the Manor of Nether Adber, the tenth penny of the old ancient rent, and likewise for two grist mills, Item in the Manor of Old Sock in certain grounds there called Hitchings. The Tithes due to the Vicar is four-pence for every Beast Leaze which doth amount unto two-pence an acre or thereabouts. Item for every communicant at Easter, two pence for his offerings. Item the vicar is to have yearly of every of the inhabitants the tenth calf, the tenth lamb, and the tenth pig, and if any of the inhabitants hath but seven calves, lambs, or pigs, yet, nevertheless, the vicar is to have one of them, paying to the inhabitant one penny and half penny (the said manor of Nether Adber, the grist mills and grounds called Hitchings only excepted). Item, if anyone of the inhabitants hath but one or two or more calves, lambs, or pigs under seven, there is due to the vicar yearly an half penny apiece for every seven of them if he do wean them. Item for calves sold if under seven, the tenth penny for every calf. Item, if any inhabitant shall kill any of the calves in his house under the number of seven the vicar is to have the best shoulder. Item, for every cow milked threepence, and for every heifer, two pence halfpenny. For every colt fallen there one penny,

and if sold when he is weanable, the tenth penny. For any hemp or flax grown, the tenth sheaf or bundle, and likewise the tenth of the hemp and flax seed, when it is taken and made. Item, there is due to the vicar the tenth of any hops. Item, the tenth of apples or pears, or any other such like fruits grown and gathered. Item, for sheep kept in the parish one whole year and shorn, the tenth of the fleece wool, and for every month's depasturing in the parish and not shorn, for every twenty sheep threepence, or for more or less after that rate. Item, if any of the inhabitants do buy or breed yearly any ewes out of the parish, and after Michaelmas shall bring them unto the parish, and the same ewes there lamb, there is due to the vicar for the tenth of the same lambs but two parts, and the third part to be allowed to the inhabitant for the straying and feeding of the said ewes out of the parish. Item, for every garden, one penny. Item, for the depasturing of all manner of cattle by such as dwell out of the parish such persons so depasturing are to agree with the vicar for the tenth part. And lastly, for a mortuary due to the vicar, according to the statute. Item, if any of the inhabitants do breed any young cattle in the parish, and shall sell them before they come to the pail or plough, there is due to the vicar for the depasturing of such cattle for so long time as they have been depastured in the parish.

The Dean and Chapter granted out the Parsonage and the Demesne lands belonging to it, from time to time, on lease for lives until the year 1811, when, for the purpose of redeeming the Land Tax on their estates, they sold the reversion in fee to their Lessee, Mr. Oliver Hayward, reserving the Vicarage which they still retain.

This paper would be incomplete without some account of Theodoric the Donor and the other owners of Mudford.

By the Domesday survey, Mudford was divided into three manors or lordships :

(1). The first, containing five hides, was held by Warmund

as mortgagee of Elward, and came afterwards into the possession of the Priory of Montacute, but it is not recorded how they acquired it. In *Kirby's Quest* (12 Edw. I), it is mentioned as Mudford Monachorum, and in the description of it in the Inq. p.m. of Robert Cryche, one of the Priors (7 Edw. IV), of the land held by him in right of his church, it is said to comprise "The manor of Mudford, in which there are 200 acres of arable, value per acre 1d. ; 20 acres of meadow, value 12d. per acre ; 100 acres of hill land 1d. ; one water mill 13s. 5d. ; Rents of assize 12s."

The estate continued in the possession of the Priory down to the dissolution of monasteries, and was granted by Hen. VIII to Richard Fermour, ancestor of the Earl of Pomfret. (*Collins' Peerage*, by Bridges, iv, 199. Pat. Roll, 36 Hen. VIII, pt. 6). Under the name of Up-Mudford, which it still retains, it was sold to Matthew Ewens, one of the Barons of the Court of Exchequer, and passed by his will in 1598 to his nephew, John Ewens. He sold it 44 Eliz. to Robert Harbyn, Esq., the direct ancestor of Col. Henry Harbin, of Newton Surmaville, the present owner.

(2). The second manor (sometimes called Mundiford), consisting of four hides and half and a mill, was held by Dode-man of the Earl of Moretain.

(3). The third manor—three hides with Stane, two hides held by Rainald under Serlo de Burci—is probably included in what is now the hamlet of Old Sock, which lies on the south-west side of the parish.¹

Collinson, in his *History of Somerset* (III., p. 221) says that the Domesday tenant of the second manor was Baldwin de Excestre, but this is an error, arising from the fact that in the Exchequer Domesday (as can be seen by the fac-simile published by the Ordnance Survey) the scribe, for want of space to enter it in the column enumerating the Earl's lands,

1. As to Stane, see "Historic Notes of South Somerset," p. 90, but I have not been able to trace the early descent of Old Sock.

inserted it in a smaller hand in a vacancy under the list of Baldwin's lands. Collinson seeing this and knowing that Baldwin was the ancestor of the Courtenays (and without referring to the Exon Domesday where the error does not occur) concluded that the manor descended from him to that family, whereas it came, at a much later period, from a different source, as we shall see.

It was the Moretain Manor (No. 2) which was held by the family of Theodoric or Terricus, from which circumstance it was called Mudford Terry—a word distorted by Collinson (or rather his local correspondent) into Mudford Street.

There are no means, however, of tracing the descent of the manor from Dodeman, the Domesday under-tenant to Theodoric, and it is very difficult to identify the different members of that family owing to the frequent recurrence of the same family name. We know, indeed, from the donor himself (Theodoric fitz William) that he had a wife (Beatrix), and two sons (Henry and William), and there is some mention of the family in the life of Wulfric, the hermit of Haselbury, by John of Ford, extracts from which are to be found in Leland's *Collectanea* (II. 447), viz.: "William filius Theodoric," lord of the Ville called Mudiford; "Beatrix," his wife, and "William, son of William, son of William, son of Theodoric." In the Cottonian MS. (Faustina B iv.) there is another extract from this life, which, in proof of Wulfric's supernatural powers, relates a story, how that his friend, William fitz Theodoric, a knight of the ville called Mudiford, catching in his river there four large pike, sent three of them as a present to Wulfric, keeping one only for himself, and that on the messenger's arrival Wulfric said to him, "Your master has not divided correctly, take one back to him and then there will be equal portions," thus shewing that he knew the knight had caught *four* fish. The author goes on to say that William, son of this William, and Beatrix, his wife, testify (testifican-tur) their belief in the story.

Wulfric died in 1154 (1 Hen. II), and we may presume that his friend William fitz Theodoric was the person who in 1166 held of William fitz William of Haselbury two knights' fees in Somerset and by the description of "William fil Terrici de Otrehamton," another in the same county of Philip de Columbers (Lib. Nig., i, 94-97).

It will be noticed that Wulfric's life speaks of Beatrix the wife of William fitz Theodoric; according to the Mudford charter the wife of Theodoric fitz William the Donor was also called Beatrix. The coincidence is curious, but there is nothing impossible in a man's wife and his mother having the same name.

In 1176 Terricus de Mudford was fined for an offence against the Forest Laws (Pipe Roll Somt. and Dor., 22-23 Hen. II), and in 1201 he was party to a fine for exchanging lands in Maxehill for part of the Marsh of Pedreham (Somt. Fines, 3 John, No. 70). This place was near the mouth of the River Parret in or near Otrehamton or Otterhampton, which afterwards belonged to the Romsey family, descendants of Theodoric.

Of the two sons of the Donor, Henry appears to have been the eldest and to have succeeded his father as lord of Mudford. In Harl MS., No. 4120, there is an extract from a deed (*sans date*) whereby Henry de Mudford granted to Wm. Malet, lord of Enmore, two fardells of land in the ville of Mudford in free-marriage with Sarah, daughter of Raymond de Sully. This, I take it, was only his confirmation of the transaction as the superior lord of land in Mudford, held of him by Malet, and did not imply any further connection with either Malet or Sully. Accompanying it is a drawing of a seal charged with a rose and a fragment of the legend round it "Modiford," and in *Coll. Top. and Gen.*, v, 125, the arms of de Mudford are said to be arg. a chevron wavy between five roses, and to be quartered by the Stukeley family of Devonshire.

Henry must have died without issue, and his brother William also, for in 1263 there was litigation respecting lands in Mudford, which Dyonisia de Otterhampton held in dower under Scolastica, sister and heir of Henry de Modford, husband of Dyonisia (Somerset Pleas. 27 Hen. III, No. 288), Henry held at his death lands in Otterhampton as well as Mudford, and William de Eston had a grant of them from the Crown during the king's pleasure (Charter Rolls, 18 John m 6). The manor of Mudford Terry may have passed by the marriage of this Scolastica with a Romesey, but at any rate, it passed into the hands of that family as in *Kirby's Quest* (12 Edw. I), it was held by Walter de Romesey and Geoffrey de Romesey of Alan de Plugenet, the superior lord in right of his barony of Haselbury. The Romesys were the owners of the adjoining manors of Okeley and Chilthorne, which they had purchased of Richard Fitz-William (Somt. Fines, 7 John, No. 18).¹

The hamlet of Hinton, which lies north of the river Yeo, seems at one time to have been treated a separate manor from Mudford Terry, but afterwards the whole was known as "the manors of Mudford and Hinton," and was in or before the reign of Edw. I held by the Norman family of Daunay or DeAlneto, an ancestor of whom "Sire De Aulnou" was a leader in the Conqueror's army at the battle of Hastings (Wace, p. 213), and William de Alneto held two knights fees in Devon 12 Hen. II (*Lib. Nig.* II, 122). 31 Edw. I. Nicholas Dawnay had inherited from William, his grandfather, the manor of Hynton juxta Modiford (Assize Rolls, 31 Edw. I, n $\frac{2}{13}$), and from him descended another Nicholas, who was summoned to Parliament as a Baron 1 Edw. III, and died 7 Edw. III, leaving Sir John Dawnay his only son and heir. He was a renowned warrior, and having signalized himself at the battle of Crecy, was made by his sovereign Knight Banneret on the battlefield. He died 20 Edw. III, leaving issue, one daughter,

1. Some additional particulars of the Romesey family will be found in "Historical Notices of South Somerset," pp. 43, 44.

aged 16, who became the wife of Sir Edward Courtenay, Kt., son of Hugh 2nd Earl of Devon, and father of Edward the 3rd Earl, commonly called the blind Earl, and by that means the Courtneys inherited the manor of Mudford and Hinton. This manor was one of those forfeited to the Crown on the attainder of Henry Earl of Devon in 1539, and was never restored to the Courtenay family. There is a survey of the manor temp. Phil. and Mary in the British Museum (Harl MS. 71), which is printed in *Top. and Gen.* I, 158. It was then still in the hands of the Crown, but before 30 Ely. it belonged to Sir Hugh Cholmley, Kt., and in the early part of the last century it was sold to Mr. John Old, of Yeovil, from whom it descended to the present owner, Mr. Goodford, of Chilton Cantelo.

APPENDIX.¹

“Carta Rogeri Episcopi confirmationis [obliteration] super ecclesiam de Mudiford.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus Roger Episcopus salutem. Novt universitas vestra nos inspex [] Cartam Theodorici filii Willelmi de Mudiford super donatione Ecclesie de Mudiford quam dilectis filiis nostris Josceline Priori et conventui Montacuti pre contulisse dinoscitur cujus forma hæc est—Sciant universi fideles Quod ego Theodoric filius Willielmi concedente Beatrice uxore mea et Henrico atque Willielmo filiis meis et heredibus concedentibus et similiter mecum donantibus dono et quantum ad dominium fundi pertinet concedo ecclesiam de Mudiford Deo et Sanctis Apostolis ejus Petro et Paulo et monachis de Montacuto in pura et perpetua elemosina et ab omne consuetudine laicali liberam cum omnibus pertinentiis suis

1. Wells Cathedral Charter, No. 48. I am indebted to Canon Church for kindly collating this transcript and No. 25 with the originals.

habendam et in perpetuam possidendam. Et quia volo hanc meam puram et perpetuam elimosinam ratam fieri et firmam presentem cartam sigillo meo confirmavi. (Seal.) Test. Helias Capellan de Cinnock Robert presbiter de Stokes Willielm Capellan de Montacute Willielm Capellan de Odecumbe David Cler de Montacute Hugh fil Theodoric Alexander fil Viel Simon de Odecumbe Galfrid de Cinnock Hanw fil Willielmi Bernard de Montacute Robert de Tintehelle Richard de Hokalsham et u mltis aliis Nos autem devotionem memorati Theodorici grato favore et assensu in Domino prosequente ad instantiam et petitionem ejusdem T. [heodorici] hanc sue donationis et concessionis cartam supradictis filiis nostris Joscelino priori et conventui Montacuti corroboramus et quicquid hujusdem Theodorici eis in ea contulit aut conferre potuit presentis scripti testimonio. Hujus testes Radulf. Archdiac de Bathon Joscelyn Capellan John de St Luca Willielm Capellan Robert Capellan de Mertock Baldwin Cler de Stoke Homa de Dinan Radulf Chusuz (?) Henry Kari Cler. Richard Camerar.

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 Pittman, J. Banks, *Basing House, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.*
 Pitt-Rivers, Lt.-Gen., F.R.S., F.S.A. *Rushmore, Salisbury*
 Plowman, Miss, *Greenway, North Curry*
 Poole, H. R. *South Petherton*
 450 Poole, Rev. Robert Blake, *Ilton Vicarage, Ilminster*
 Poole, Wm. *Park Street, Taunton*
 Poll, R. P. H. Batten, *Road Manor, Bath*
 Pope, John, *Nowers, Wellington*
 Porch, J. A. *Edgarley House, Glastonbury*
 455 Portman, Hon. E. W. B. *Hestercombe, Taunton*
 †Portman, The Rt. Hon. The Viscount, *Bryanstone House, Dorset, V.P.*
 Potter, Wm. 12, *The Crescent, Taunton*
 Powell, Septimus, *The Hermitage, Weston-super-Mare*
 Pranker, P. D. *The Knoll, Sneyd Park, Bristol*
 460 Price, R. E. *Broomfield Hall, Bridgwater*
 Prideaux, C. S., L.D.S., R.C.S. Eng. 51, *High West Street, Dorchester*
 Prideaux, W. de C., L.D.S., R.C.S. Eng. *Ermington, Dorchester*
 †Pring, Rev. Daniel J. *Elmfield, Taunton*
 Prior, R. C. A. M.D. *Halse*
 465 Quicke, Rev. C. P. *Ashbrittle*
 Raban, Rev. R. C. W. *Bishop's Hull*
 *Ramsden, Sir John Wm., Bart., *Bulstrode, Gerrard's Cross, Bucks, 6, Upper Brook Street, London, and Byram, Yorkshire*
 Rawle, E. J. *Camden Villa, Chislehurst, Kent*
 Raymond, Walter, *Yeovil*
 470 Reeves, A. *Taunton*
 Risk, Rev. J. E. *Stockleigh English, Crediton, Devon*
 Richardson, Rev. A. *Brislington*
 Rigden, G. W. *Cyprus Terrace, Taunton*
 Risley, S. Norris
 475 Rixon, W. A. *Alfoxton Park, Holford, Bridgwater*
 Roberts, F. W. *Northbrook Lodge, Taunton*

- Roberts, Killam, M.R.C.S. Eng. *Shillington, Bedfordshire*
 Rocke, Mrs. *Chalice Hill, Glastonbury*
 Rogers, G. H. 16, *Park Street, Taunton* (deceased)
 480 Rogers, The Worshipful Chancellor T. E. *Yarlington House, Wincanton*
 Rogers, W. H. H. F.S.A. *Bellevue, Polsloe Road, Exeter*
 Roope, Gerald, *Bramdean, Bishop's Hull*
 Rose, Rev. W. F. Hutton, *Weston-super-Mare*
 Rossiter, G. F., M.B. *Weston-super-Mare*
 485 Rowe, J. Brooking, F.S.A. *Castle Barbican, Plympton, Devon*
 Rowley, W. L. P. *Brazenose College, Oxford, and Woolavington*
 Ruddock, Miss Fanny M. *Elmfield, Clevedon*
 Ruegg, Lewis H. *Westbury, Sherborne, Dorset*
 Rutter, Rev. J. H. *Ilminster*
 490 Salmon, Ven. Archdeacon E. A. *Brent Knoll, Highbridge* (deceased)
 †Samson, C. H. *Taunton*
 †Sanford, W. A. *Nynehead Court, Wellington*, v.p. Trustee
 Sanford, E. C. A. "
 Lydeard House, Taunton
 495 Sawyer, Col. E. *Hinton St. George*
 Scott, Rev. J. P. *Wey House, Taunton*
 Scott, M. H. 5, *Lansdown Place West, Bath*
 †Seale, Rev. F. S. P. *Pitminster*
 Sealy, W. H. *Heathfield House, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton*
 500 Semple, W. Rae Mac-Phun, M.B. Ch.M. *Yeoil*
 Sheldon, Thomas, *Clevedon*
 Shore, Capt. The Hon. Henry N. *Mount Elton, Clevedon*
 Short, John, *Provis, Batcombe, Bath*
 Shum, F. 17, *Norfolk Crescent, Bath*
 505 Sibley, J. P. *Highclere House, Taunton*
 Skinner, Stephen, M.B. *Tranent Lawn, Clevedon*
 †Skrine, H. D. *Claverton Manor, Bath*, v.p.
 Skrine, H. M. *Warleigh Manor, Bath*
 Slade, Wyndham, *Montys Court, Taunton*
 510†Sloper, E. *Dashwood House, Broad Street, London*
 Sly, E. B., *Glastonbury*
 Smith, A. J. *North Street, Taunton*
 Smith, F. Buchanan, *Haines Hill, Taunton*
 †Smith, Rev. Gilbert E. *Barton St. David*
 515 Smith, Wm., M.D. *Weyhill, Andover*
 Smith, J. H. W. *Roseneath, Taunton*

- Smith, W. Carleton
 †Smith, Rev. A. H. A. *The Vicarage, Lyng*
 Smith, Major, *Lyng*
 520 Somers, B. E. *Mendip Lodge, Langford, Bristol*
 Somerville, A. F. *Dinder, Wells*
 Sommerville, R. G. *Ruishton House, Taunton*
 Southall, H. *The Craig, Ross*
 Southam, Rev. J. H. *Trull*
 525 Sparks, William, *Crewkerne*
 Speke, W. *Jordans, Ilminster*
 Spencer, Frederick, *Pondsmead, Oakhill, Bath*
 Spencer, J. H. *Corfe, Taunton*
 Spicer, Northcote W. *Chard*
 530 Spiller, H. J. *Taunton*
 Spiller, Miss, *Sunny Bank, Bridgwater*
 Standley, A. P. *Rossall School, Fleetwood*
 †Standley, E. J., M.P. *Quantock Lodge, Bridgwater, Trustee,*
 V.P.
 *Stanley, H. T. *Quantock Lodge, Bridgwater*
 535 Stanway, Moses, *Park Street, Taunton*
 Steevens, A. *Taunton*
 Stephenson, Rev. Preb. J. H. *Lympsham*
 Sterry, Rev. F., *Chapel Cleeve*
 Stevens, E. W. 4, *Birch Grove, Taunton*
 540 Stoate, Wm. *Ashleigh, Burnham*
 †Strachey, Sir E., Bart. *Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol, v.p.*
 Stradling, Rev. W. J. L. *Chilton-super-Polden*
 Stringfellow, A. H. *The Chestnuts, Taunton*
 Stuckey, Vincent, *Hill House, Langport*
 545 Sully, Christopher W. *Wembdon Road, Bridgwater*
 Sully, T. N. *Avalon House, Priory Road, Tyndale's Park,*
 Clifton, Bristol
 Sully, J. Norman, *Hocker Hill House, Chepstow*
 Sully, G. B. *Belmont, Burnham*
 Summerfield, William, *St. George's Villa, Taunton*
 550 Surrage, E. J. *Rocke, 1, Garden Court, Temple, London*
 †Sweetman, Geo. *Wincanton*
 Tanner, Rev. T. C. *Burlescombe Vicarage, Wellington*
 Tarr, Francis John, *Roseneath, Willsbridge, near Bristol*
 Taylor, Thomas, *Taunton*
 555 Taylor, Rev. A. D. *Churchstanton*
 Taylor, Rev. C. S. *Banwell, R.S.O., Somerset*
 Taylor, Rev. J. H. *Ile Abbots*
 †Temple, Rt. Hon. Earl, *Newton House, Bristol, Trustee*
 Thatcher, A. A. *Midsomer Norton, Bath*

- 560 Thatcher, Edward J. *Firfield House, Knowle, Bristol*
 Thomas, C. E. *Granville, Lansdown, Bath*
 Thompson, A. G. 10, *Greenway Avenue, Taunton*
 Thompson, Rev. Archer, *Montrose, Weston Park, Bath*
 Thompson, H. Stuart, 30, *Waterloo Street, Birmingham*
 565 Thring, Rev. Preb. Godfrey, *Plonk's Hill, Shamley Green, Guildford*
 Tilley, J. A. C. 63, *Cheyne Court, Chelsea*
 †Tite, C.
 Tite, Mrs.
 Todd, D'Arcy, 36, *Norfolk Square, Hyde Park, London, W.*
 570 Toft, Rev. H. *Azbridge*
 †Tomkins, Rev. H. G. *Weston-super-Mare*
 Tomkins, Rev. W. S. 33, *Canynges Square, Clifton, Bristol*
 Tordiffe, Rev. Stafford, *Staplegrove*
 Trask, Charles, *Norton, Ilminster*
 575 Trenchard, W. J. *Heidelberg House, Mary Street, Taunton*
 †Trevilian, E. B. Cely, *Midelney Place, Curry Rivel, v.P.*
 Trevilian, Mrs. " "
 Tucker, W. J. *Chard*
 Tuckett, F. F. *Frenchay, Bristol*
 580 Turner, H. G. *Staplegrove, and 19, Sloane Gardens, London, S.W.*
 Tynte, Halswell M. Kemeys, *Halswell, Bridgwater (deceased)*
 Tynte, St. David Kemeys, *Sherwood, Gouthurst*
 Ussher, W. A. E., *H.M. Geological Survey*
 Utterson, Major-General, *Sidbrook, Taunton*
 585 Valentine, E. W. *Somerton*
 Vickery, A. J., 16, *Bridge Street, Taunton*
 Vile, J. G. *Wilton Lodge, Taunton*
 Villar, Mrs. W. J. *Tauntonfield, Taunton*
 Wadmore, Rev. J. A. W. *Barrow Gurney, Bristol*
 590 Wainwright, Chas. *Summerleaze, Shepton Mallet*
 Wait, H. W. K. *Woodborough House, Stoke Bishop, Bristol*
 †Wakefield, J. E. W. *Taunton*
 Waldegrave, Rt. Hon. Earl, *Chewton Priory, Bath*
 Waldron, Clement, *Llandaff, S. Wales*
 595 Walter, W. W. *Stoke-sub-Hamdon*
 Warry, G. D., q.c. *Shapwick*
 Warry, Henry Cockeram, *The Cedars, Preston Road, Yeovil*
 Watts, B. H. 13, *Queen Square, Bath*
 Weaver, Chas. *Uplands, St. John's Road, Clifton*
 600† Weaver, Rev. F. W. *Milton Clevedon, Evercreech, General Secretary*

- Webber, George, *Taunton*
 Welch, C. 21, *Ellesker Gardens, Richmond, Surrey*
 Wells, The Dean and Chapter
 Wells Theological College
 605 Were, F. *Gratwicke Hall, Barrow Gurney, Bristol*
 West, Rev. W. H. 25, *Pulteney Street, Bath*
 Westlake, W. H. *Taunton*
 Whale, Rev. T. W. *Weston, Bath*
 Whistler, Rev. C. W., M.R.C.S. *Stockland, Bridgwater*
 610 White, Saml. *The Holt, Mountlands, Taunton*
 Whitting, C. G. *Glandore, Weston-super-Mare*
 Wickenden, F. B. *Tone House, Taunton*
 Wickham, Rev. A. P. *Martock*
 †Williams, Rev. Wadham Pigott, *Weston-super-Mare*
 615 Williams, Thos. Webb, *Flax-Bourton*
 Wilkinson, Rev. Thos. *Wellington Road, Taunton*
 Wills, H. H. W. *Barley Wood, Wrington*
 Wills, Sir W. H., Bart., M.P. *Coombe Lodge, Blagdon,*
R.S.O., Somerset
 Wilson, Rev. W. C. *Huntspill*
 620 Willcocks, A. D. *Taunton*
 Winter, Major, 35, *Silverdale Road, Sydenham*
 †Winterbotham, W. L., M.B. *Bridgwater*
 Winwood, Rev. H. H. 11, *Cavendish Crescent, Bath*
 Winwood, T. H. R. *Wellisford Manor, Wellington*
 625 Wood, F. A. *Highfield, Chew Magna*
 Wood, Rev. W. Berdmore, *Bicknoller Vicarage*
 Woodforde, Rev. A. J. *Locking, Weston-super-Mare*
 Woodward, Miss J. L. *The Knoll, Clevedon*
 Wooler, W. H. *Weston-super-Mare*
 630†Worthington, Rev. J. *Taunton*
 Wright, W. H. K. *Free Library, Plymouth*
 Wyatt, J. W. *Eastcourt, Wells, Somerset*

Members are requested to inform "The Secretaries, Taunton Castle," of any errors or omissions in the above list; they are also requested to authorise their Bankers to pay their subscriptions annually to Stuckey's Banking Company, Taunton; or to either of their branches; or their respective London Agents, on account of the Treasurer.

Rules.

THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its object shall be the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the County of Somerset, and the establishment of a Museum and Library.

II.—The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Patron and Trustees, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General and District or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call Special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such Special Meeting and its objects, shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society will be *ex-officio* Members) which shall hold monthly Meetings for receiving Reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; three of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman at Meetings of the Society shall have a casting vote, in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. The property of the Society shall be held in Trust for the Members by twelve Trustees, who shall be chosen from the Members at any General Meeting. All Manuscripts and Communications and other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the Members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings and Sixpence on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings and Sixpence as an annual subscription, which shall become due on the first of January in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

XIII.—At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be balloted for as Honorary and Corresponding Members.

XIV.—When an office shall become vacant, or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same: such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments, which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve Members at least shall be present. Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society, may (with the Author's consent and subject to the discretion of the Committee) be published in the *Proceedings* of the Society.

XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—Any person contributing books or specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of a dissolution of the Society. Persons shall also have liberty to deposit books or specimens for a specific time only.

XX.—In case of dissolution, the real property of the Society in Taunton shall be held by the Trustees, for the advancement of Literature, Science and Art, in the town of Taunton and the county of Somerset.

Rules for the Government of the Library.

1.—The Library shall be open for the use of the Members of the Society daily (with the exception of Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day), from Ten in the Morning till Five in the Afternoon, from April to August inclusive, and during the remaining months of the year until Four o'clock.

2.—Every Member of the Society whose annual Subscription shall not be more than three months in arrear may borrow out of the Library not more than two volumes at a time, and may exchange any of the borrowed volumes for others as often as he may please, but so that he shall not have more than two in his possession at any one time.

3.—Every application by any Member who shall not attend in person for the loan of any book or books shall be in writing.

4.—So much of the title of every book borrowed as will suffice to distinguish it, the name of the borrower, and the time of borrowing it, shall be entered in a book to be called the "Library Delivery Book;" and such entry, except the application be by letter, shall be signed by the borrower; and the return of books borrowed shall be duly entered in the same book.

5.—The book or books borrowed may either be taken away by the borrower, or sent to him in any reasonable and recognised mode which he may request; and should no request be made, then the Curator shall send the same to the borrower by such mode as the Curator shall think fit.

6.—All cost of the packing, and of the transmission and return of the book or books borrowed, shall in every case be defrayed by the Member who shall have borrowed the same.

7.—No book borrowed out of the Library shall be retained for a longer period than one month, if the same be applied for in the meantime by any other Member; nor in any case shall any book be retained for a longer period than three months.

8.—Every Member who shall borrow any book out of the Library shall be responsible to the Society for its safety and good condition from the time of its leaving the Library ; also if he borrow any book or manuscript within the Library, till it shall be returned by him. And in case of loss or damage, he shall replace the same or make it good ; or, if required by the Committee, shall furnish another copy of the entire work of which it may be part.

9.—No manuscript, nor any drawing, nor any part of the Society's collection of prints or rubbings shall be lent out of the Library without a special order of the Committee, and a bond given for its safe return at such time as the Committee shall appoint.

10.—The Committee shall prepare, and may from time to time add to or alter, a list of such works as shall not be lent out of the Library, on account of their rarity, value, or peculiar liability to damage ; or on account of their being works of reference often needed by Members personally using the Library, and a copy of such list for the time being shall be kept in the Library.

11.—No book shall be lent out until one month after the acquisition of it for the Library.

12.—Extracts from the manuscripts or printed books are allowed to be made freely, but in case of a transcript being desired of a whole manuscript or printed book, the consent of the Committee must be previously obtained.

13.—Persons not being Members of the Society may be admitted for a period not exceeding one week, to consult printed books and manuscripts not of a private nature in the Society's Library, for any special purpose, on being introduced by a Member, either personally or by letter.

14.—No book shall be lent to any person not being a Member of the Society without a special order of the Committee.

15.—Before any Member can borrow a book from the Library, he must acknowledge that he consents to the printed Rules of the Society for the Government of the Library.

* * *It is requested that contributions to the Museum or Library be sent to the Curator, at the Taunton Castle.*

Rules for the Formation of Local Branch Societies.

1.—On the application of not less than Five Members of the Society the Council may authorise the formation of a Local Branch in any District, and may, if considered advisable, define a specific portion of the County as the District to such Branch.

2.—Societies already in existence, may, on application from the governing bodies, be affiliated as Branches.

3.—All Members of the Parent Society shall be entitled to become Members of any Branch.

4.—A Branch Society may elect Local Associates not necessarily Members of the Parent Society.

5.—Members of the Council of the Parent Society, being Members of, and residing within the District assigned to any Branch, shall be *ex-officio* Members of the Council of such Branch.

6.—A Branch Society may fix the rates of Subscription for Members and Associates, and make Rules and Bye-Laws for the government of such Branch, subject in all cases to the approval of the Council of the Parent Society.

7.—A Branch Society shall not be entitled to pledge the credit of the Parent Society in any manner whatsoever.

8.—The authority given by the Council may at any time be withdrawn by them, subject always to an appeal to a General Meeting.

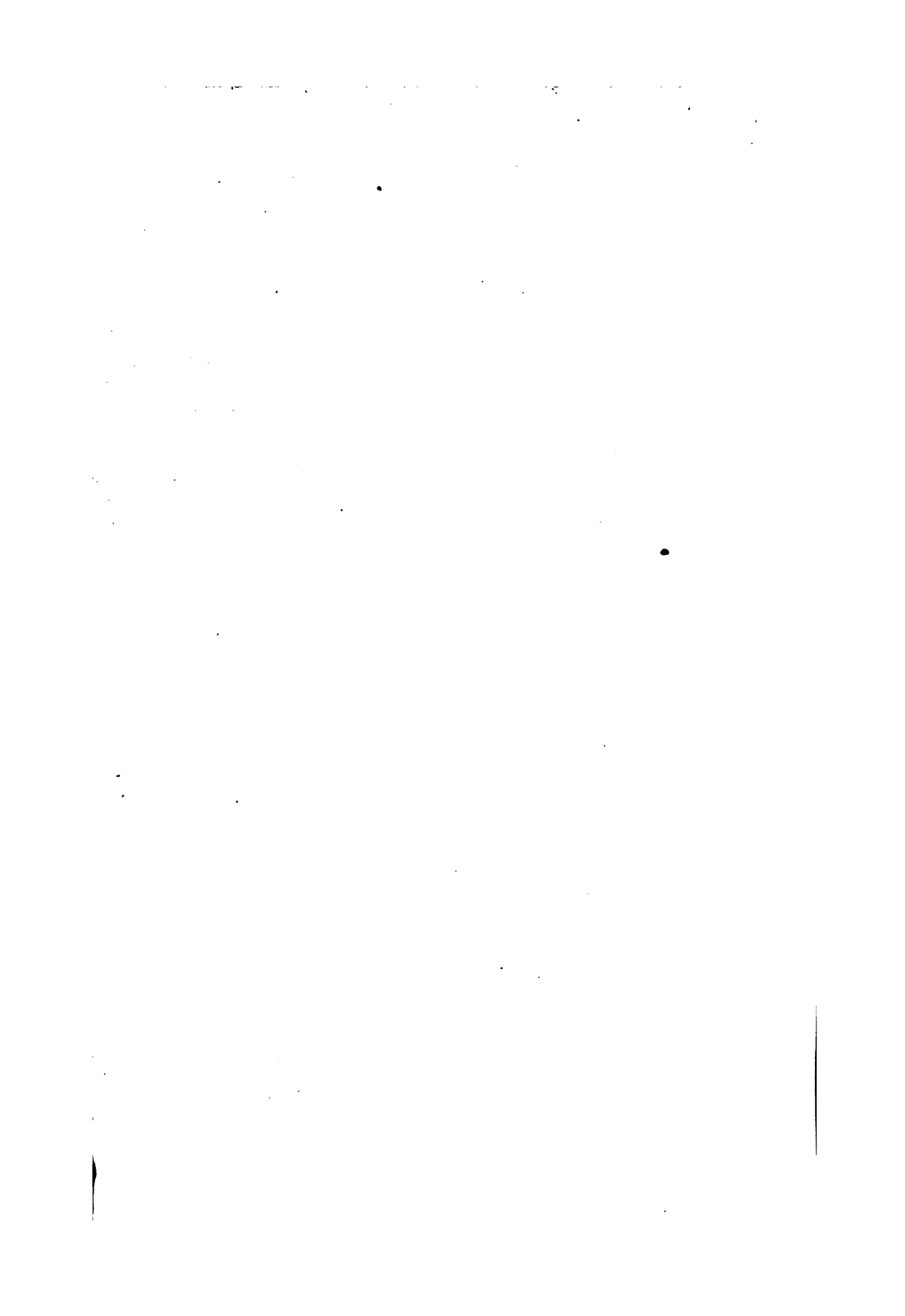
9.—Every Branch Society shall send its Publications and the Programmes of its Meetings to the Parent Society, and in return shall receive a free copy of the Parent Society's *Proceedings*.

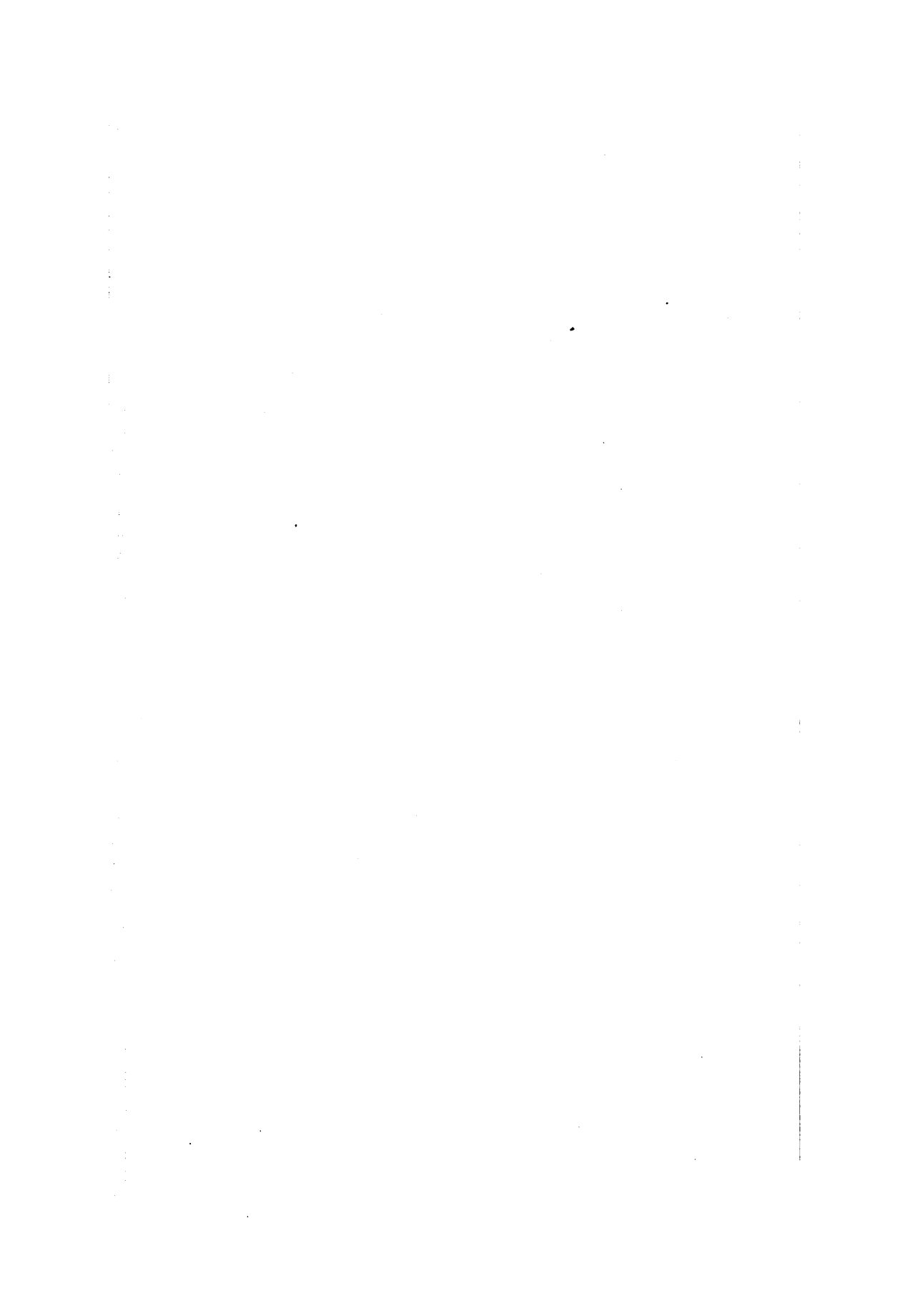
10.—If on any discovery being made of exceptional interest a Branch Society shall elect to communicate it to the Parent Society before themselves making it a matter of discussion, the Parent Society, if it adopts it as the subject of a paper at one of its ordinary Meetings, shall allow the Branch Society to make use of any Illustrations that the Parent Society may prepare.

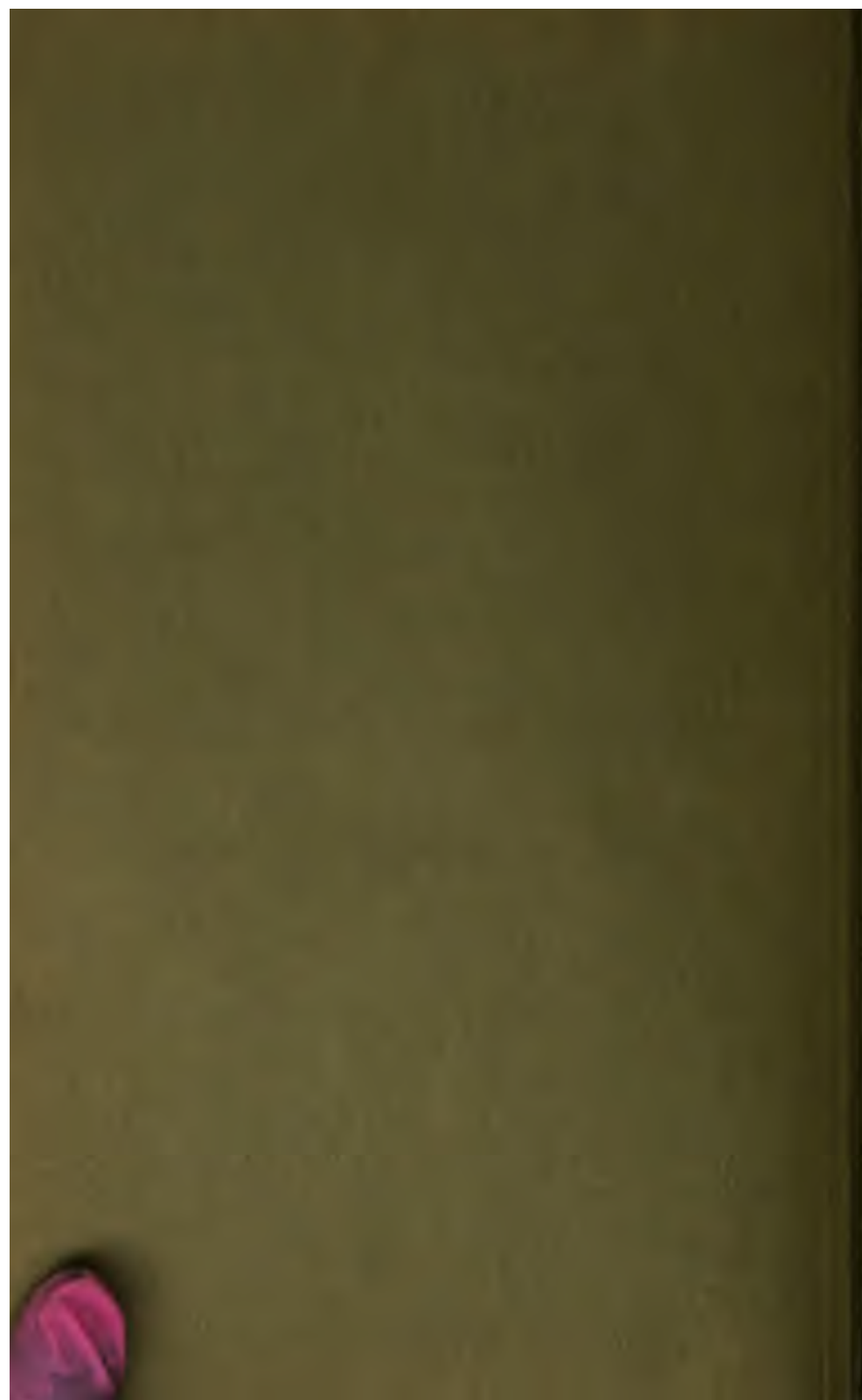
11.—Any Officer of a Branch Society, or any person recommended by the President, Vice-President, Chairman or Secretary, or by any Two of the Members of the Council of a Branch Society, shall on the production of proper Vouchers be allowed to use the Library of the Society, but without the power of removing books except by the express permission of the Council.

12.—Branch Societies shall be invited to furnish Reports from time to time to the Parent Society with regard to any subject or discovery which may be of interest.

December, 1899.







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